BENGAL SECRETARIAT LIBRARY

ANNUAL REPORT

ON

INLAND EMIGRATION

FOR THE YEAR

1880-81.

BY

J. G. G. GRANT, Esq., M.D.,

Superintendent of Emigration.

Calcutta:

PRINTED AT THE BENGAL SECRETARIAT PRESS.

1881.

BENGAL SECRETARIAT LIBRARY

No. 1337, dated Calcutta, the 10th September 1881.

From—J. G. G. GRANT, ESQ., M.D., Superintendent of Emigration,

To—The Secretary to the Government of Bengal; General Department.

I HAVE the honour to submit, for the information of Government, the Annual Report on Inland Emigration for the year ending 31st March 1881.

ANNUAL REPORT ON INLAND EMIGRATION DURING THE YEAR ENDING THE 31ST MARCH 1881.

SECTION I.

ADMINISTRATIVE MEASURES.

Preliminary

THE year under review is conspicuous for the number of proposals that were put forward and considered in connection with the recruitment and transport of labour for the tea districts of Assam and Cachar; and the nature of those proposals affords evidence of the pressing need universally felt by those interested in the tea industry for the adoption of measures that will relieve it as much as possible of the delays, difficulties, and expenses attending the present system of collecting and conveying labourers for those districts. The effort to meet consistently with a regard to other important considerations the wishes of those who had submitted their recommendations to Government was not altogether an easy one. Nevertheless, not only were alterations introduced into several of the rules regulating transport arrangements under the existing law, Act VII (B.C.) of 1873, but a Bill was framed to remedy what were considered to be the chief defects of that Act.

Reduction of emigrants' deck-space on board river steamers.

2. With the object of reducing the rates of passage charged by the River Steam Navigation Company and the India General Steam Navigation Company for the conveyance of coolies to Assam, the question originally raised by those companies was again discussed as to whether, in consideration of the shorter passage *viâ* Dhubri, and of lower rates of passage being charged, Government would allow a compensating reduction of the deck-space required for coolies by the rules regulating transport, so as to admit of the companies' vessels carrying a larger number of passengers on each trip. After consulting the views of Sir Stuart Bayley, the Chief Commissioner of Assam, who, it is needless to say, desired the adoption, under suitable sanitary precautions, of every measure likely to improve the means of introducing labour into the province under his administration, Government granted the concession asked on condition that the passage from Dhubri to Tezpore, and from Dhubri to Debrugarh, be accomplished in five and nine days respectively, that the fares be reduced in the manner proposed by the companies, and that proper sanitary arrangements, including of course means for a sufficient supply of pure water and pure air, be maintained constantly in a state of efficiency on board such of their vessels as are licensed for the conveyance of labourers. The steamer companies, though unable to give guarantees as to the length of passage, express their willingness to comply with the prescribed conditions, and accordingly His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor, in a notification of the 28th August 1880, not only sanctioned a modification of Rule 89, to the effect that deck-space for coolies should be provided on board vessels at the rate of 10 superficial feet to each statute adult during the months of November, December, and January, and of 12 superficial feet for the rest of the year, but also in view of the shorter passage to Assam, and of sufficient reasons justifying the measure, sanctioned the cancellation of Rules 58 and 66, and thereby raised the limit of exemption from the compulsory employment of a medical officer to 200 emigrants—the number prescribed by the Act.

Proposals of Messrs. Schoene Kilburn and Company, and of the Indian Tea Districts' Association.

3. As already noticed in the Report on Inland Emigration for the year 1879-80, the suggestions of Messrs. Schoene, Kilburn and Company for improving the system of provisioning steamers for the conveyance of labourers to Assam formed the subject of a further reference to Government. Subsequently, the proposals placed before His Excellency the Viceroy and Governor-General in the memorial of the Indian Tea Districts' Association, offering similar suggestions, together with others for promoting free emigration from the quasi-independent territories bordering the ordinary recruiting districts, and for reducing generally the difficulty and expense of procuring labour, were discussed in a report submitted to Government by this office in August last. With a desire to meet, as far as possible, the views of the Association, certain proposals for altering the system of recruitment, and the scales of provisions, clothing, and medical stores, were also submitted for consideration. In due course, after consulting the Chief Commissioner of Assam, Government issued instructions directing this office to submit drafts of amended rules and revised scales necessary for giving effect to such of the suggestions as had been approved, and at the same time intimated that the proposals for simplifying the rules under which the recruitment of labourers is conducted cannot receive full effect until the Act has been amended. To this end His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor had proposed to the Government of India that all such matters of detail as those connected with the operations of recruiters generally could "best be considered by a Committee representing all interests concerned and sitting in Calcutta."

Appointment of a Commission with a view to the amendment of Act VII (B.C.) of 1873.

4. His Excellency the Governor-General in Council having approved of the appointment of a Commission nominated partly by the Government of Bengal and partly by the Chief Commissioner of Assam "to examine into the working of Act VII (B.C.) of 1873, and suggest any relaxations and amendments of the law which it may seem safe and advisable to adopt," His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor appointed, under the Resolution of the 13th December 1880, a Commission consisting of official and non-official members, including those nominated by the Chief Commissioner of Assam, and of which Mr. A. Mackenzie, Secretary to the Government of Bengal in the General Department, was appointed the President. It was "the duty of the Commission to consider the papers and reports that were laid before it, and to frame a draft Bill to amend the Labour Transport Act in those particulars in which it may be deemed by them to be defective." The first meeting of the Commission was held on the 20th of December 1880. Even if it were not out of place, it would be vain to attempt here the barest outline of its proceedings, but in the words of the report submitted by the Commission for the information of Government, the present Labour District Emigration Act was found to be defective in respect chiefly of the following points:—

"1. In that it does not afford sufficient encouragement to free emigration.

"2. In that it imposes unnecessary restrictions upon sirdari recruiting.

"3. In that it fails to provide for the enforcement of contracts made otherwise than under the provisions of the Act itself, even in the case of imported labourers.

"4. In respect of the remedies provided for employers in the event of the unlawful absence, idleness, or desertion of their contract labourers."

The details of the Bill drawn up by the Commission consist necessarily of amendments calculated to remedy these defects. The 11th and last meeting of its members was held on the 20th of January 1881, when, having finally passed the draft Bill and signed its report, the Commission, whose labours had been so ably conducted by Mr. Mackenzie, was dissolved.

Revision of emigration rules and scales

5. While the Commission was busily progressing with the amendment of the Act, this office was occupied in the revision of the rules and scales regulating transport arrangements which it had been directed to undertake. Accordingly, having been

assured by the steamer companies concerned that they concurred in and desired to carry out the new arrangements, draft rules and scales, revised with a view to economy and actual requirements, together with suggestions as to desirable alterations in the existing rules, were submitted for the consideration and approval of Government. Looking, however, to the pending revision of the entire rules in connection with the amendment of the Act, those of the existing rules, though bearing on transport, that do not interfere with the desired change of system, were not disturbed. The revised rules and scales having been approved, were brought into force by the Government of Bengal notification of the 3rd March 1881, and have virtually effected the changes desired by Messrs. Schoene, Kilburn and Company. The chief alterations briefly stated are the following:—

(*a*) The permanent fittings of vessels intended for the conveyance of emigrants are now subject to the approval of the Superintendent of Emigration, or other officer duly empowered at Calcutta, who, if satisfied of the rules having been complied with, shall grant to the master a certificate of approval specifying the number of emigrant passengers the vessel may carry.

(*b*) The master of every vessel carrying the emigrants, and not as formerly the contractor or agent forwarding them, has to provide the provisions, medical stores, and miscellaneous articles, a licensed medical officer, and the establishment of attendants prescribed in the revised rules and scales regulating each of those requirements respectively. It will be seen therefore that, during the year under review, numerous and important measures calculated by their proposers to affect more or less beneficially every stage in the recruitment and transport of labour have received the attention of Government, with a view to the permanent introduction of as many of them as may prove to be consistent with other important considerations and the acknowledged requirements of the tea industry.

Labour contract: minimum age at which labourer may execute it, and revision of its form.

6. Two questions were raised by the Inspector of Labourers, Upper Assam—the first, as to whether lads of 16 years should not be considered too young to enter into contracts for the performance of labour in Assam; and the second, as to whether the form of contract should not be altered in order to restrict the power it appeared to allow agents of tea gardens of transferring coolies from one garden to another, were considered and disposed of by Government in communication with the Chief Commissioner of Assam. In regard to the first, His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor concurred in the view that "there is no reason why healthy lads of 16 should not be deemed fit to work on a tea garden, and be permitted to execute contracts as adult labourers;" and in regard to the second, His Honor approved of the amended form of contract, which now requires the name of the employer on whose behalf the labourer is engaged, besides that of the agent with whom the contract is directly made, and the name of the garden or estate of such employer, as well as that of the district where labour is to be performed.

Abolition of hospital and coolie sheds along the Rajmehal route.

7. Government having ascertained that the route *viâ* Rajmehal was no longer used by coolies proceeding to Dhubri, directed, early in October last, that the hospital establishments along that route as far as the Northern Bengal State Railway be abolished. Subsequently, in December, the coolie sheds at Buddergunge and the hospital establishment at Rungpore were also removed; and still later on, in March last, the hospital establishment at Gazirhat was broken up, and the hospital assistant transferred from that place to Kownia under the orders of Government. Thus by the end of the official year all the coolie sheds and hospitals no longer required at the places marginally noted were abolished, and the sale proceeds of such sheds as were not taken over by the Road Cess Committee of Dinagepore were credited to the Labour Transport Fund.

Gazole Luckrampore ..	Maldah.
Dinagepore Tumboli Mungul Bari ..	Dinagepore.
Rungpore . Buddergunge ... Gazirhat ..	Rungpore.

Cholera, and the Calcutta depôts.

8. The results of the enquiry into the prevalence of cholera on board steamers carrying coolies to Assam during the year 1878-79, to which reference was made in last year's annual report, led to the inference that at least in the majority of instances examined the disease originated in the Calcutta depôts. An analysis of the records showed that the coolies had not apparently suffered from cholera either in their homes or during the journey to Calcutta, but after their admission into the depôts situated in the Calcutta suburbs of Entally and Sealdah. It was admitted, however, that the disease had been traced no further than the depôts, in the absence of any positive and reliable information as to the influences to which the coolies had been previously exposed, either in the recruiting districts or on the journey; and, moreover, that instances were not wanting in which cholera had declared itself so shortly—only within a few hours—after the arrival of the coolies in depôt, as to justify the conclusion that in these few cases at least the disease had been imported. Looking, however, to the comparative unhealthiness of the suburbs above named (where alone sites in other respects suitable for coolie depôts are available), and to the time that must elapse before sanitary improvements that may be in progress can make any sensible impression on their condition, it may reasonably be apprehended that, even after everything has been done in the internal management of depôts so situated, there will still be a risk of cholera breaking out among labourers, especially among those of the dhanger class, so long as they have to be transmitted through Calcutta. In view of this danger, Government expressed the hope that all labourers travelling to Assam from Western Bengal and Behar would follow the route avoiding Calcutta by way of Mugra, Kanchrapara, Kownia, and Dhubri. Thus Goalundo would cease to be a place of embarkation for Assam labourers, Dhubri taking its place, as was recommended by the Chief Commissioner of Assam in his Resolution on the Dhubri Immigration Report for 1879-80. Emigrants for Cachar and Sylhet would always have to embark at Goalundo or Kooshtea, but even in their case, if found to lead to immunity from cholera, it would be well if they also were to avoid Calcutta and travel *viâ* Kanchrapara. The prospect of such changes, pointing as they do to the abolition of the Calcutta depôts and the discouragement of the business carried on by contractors in Calcutta, who supply labourers to the agencies here, has of course been a source of anxiety to them, and consequently they represented their position to Government, being apprehensive at the time the new Bill was being drafted that measures might be introduced into the amended Act prejudicial to the existence of their depôts in Calcutta. Curiously enough, mortality from cholera, which in 1878-79 created so unfavourable an impression of the Calcutta depôts, has not only been singularly trifling ever since, but genuine cholera has been altogether absent from them during the entire period, 1880-81, now under review. It is to be hoped that this immunity may continue; but it is obviously impossible to be sanguine, and as clearly necessary to maintain fully all the measures that have been introduced with a view to prevention.

SECTION II.

RECRUITMENT.

RECRUITING AGENCIES.

(*a*)—*Contractors.*

No.	NAMES	DATES OF			Situation of depôts.	REMARKS.
		Renewed licenses.	Fresh licenses	Previous years' licenses.		
1	Mr. E. C. Greve	12th May 1880	None granted.	14th May 1879	Dhubri ...	On behalf of the Planters' Stores and Agency Co.
2	„ O B Andrews .	28th „ „ ...		28th „ „ ...	Entally (Cal.)	General contractor
3	Baboo B P. Mitter ...	24th June „ ...		24th June „ ..	Sealdah (Do.)	Ditto ditto
4	Mr A W Pickford	30th July „ ..		30th July „	Entally ...	On behalf of 12 leading Firms in Calcutta
5	„ W H P Driver .	11th Sep „ ...		11th Sep. „	Dhubri ...	On behalf of Messrs. Macneill and Company.
6	„ V. Harvey ...	24th „ „ ..		24th „ „	Sealdah ..	General contractor
7	„ W Thompson	28th „ „ ...		28th „	Dhubri	On behalf of Messrs Shaw, Finlayson and Company.
8	Baboo K. M Chatterjee ..	28th „ „ .		28th „ „	Entally	On behalf of the Assam Company
9	„ J N Datta .	17th Feb 1881		17th Feb 1880	Sealdah .	General contractor
10	Mr. R Hendry	3rd March „ .		3rd March „ ...	Entally	Ditto ditto
11	Baboo H L Mookerjee	29th „ „ ...		29th „ „ .	Ditto ...	Ditto ditto

From the above statement it will be seen that during the past year 11 contractors having established depôts either at Dhubri, or in the suburbs of Calcutta at Entally and Sealdah, have been conducting the business of recruitment through licensed recruiters. At least six of their number were general contractors, who supplied labourers to any one in want of them; while the rest were special contractors, who worked on behalf of certain firms only.

It may be noticed that the number of contractors has continued to decrease, for, at the beginning of the year ending 31st March 1879, there were 20; whereas at the corresponding periods in 1880 and 1881 there were only 16 and 11 respectively. This decrease is due partly to the reduced demand for the services of general contractors, and partly to the fact that, in view of this reduced demand, and the advantages of restricting the work of recruitment to a few responsible agents, and especially to those who have also secured the confidence and support of the leading Calcutta firms, applications for fresh licenses to contractors of the general class have been systematically discouraged by me.

(*b*)—*Recruiters.*

The following statement shows, for the purposes of comparison, the number of recruiters' licenses granted and cancelled during the years 1879-80 and 1880-81:—

Contractors.	Recruiting Licenses					
	Granted.		Cancelled.			
	1879-80.	1880-81.	1879-80		1880-81.	
			Number.	Percentage.	Number.	Percentage.
Baboo P. C. Ganguli	10	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Mr. T. H. Bennertz	24	...	1	4·16	.....	.....
„ O. B Andrews	102	81	3	2 94	.....	.
Baboo J. N Datta	87	50	.....	.....	1	2·00
Mr. W. Thompson	10	9	.....	.....	.....	.....
Baboo K. M. Chatterjee	18	24	.....	.	.....	.....
„ B P. Mitter	41	24	2	4 87	.....	..
Mr. R. Hendry...	106	87	4	3 77	2	2·29
Baboo H. L. Mookerjee	87	85	2	2·29	6	7·05
Mr. A. W. Pickford	17	20	.....	.....	.....	.....
„ V. Harvey	105	103	.....	.....	1	0·97
„ E. C. Grieve	11	23	.....	.....	.....	.....
Total ...	618	506	12	1·74	10	1·97

The number of recruiters licensed on behalf of contractors was 506 in 1880-81 as against 618 in 1879-80; the percentage of licenses cancelled during the past year was, however, nearly the same as that of the previous year, and this fairly satisfactory result is due, in some degree doubtless, to the continued care taken by contractors to control the operations of their recruiters.

(*c*)—*Garden Sirdar Recruiters.*

The total number of recruiting certificates granted during the year to garden sirdars, as evidenced by the number of copies furnished to this office, is 2,635 as against 2,207 during the previous year. Of the 2,635 sirdars, 2,111 were authorised to collect more than 20 in number (class B coolies) and to transmit them through licensed depôts, while only 524 were authorised to collect not more than 20 (class C coolies) and to convey them independently of the depôts. As during the previous year, and apparently for the same reasons, preference continued to be given to the class B system of recruitment. I would here add that, of the total number of sirdars' recruiting certificates furnished during the past year, it was found necessary to cancel only four or 0·15 per cent. for misconduct; and that all four certificates were held by sirdars authorised to recruit less than 20 labourers.

Intending emigrants.

2. Excluding those who were registered during the past year with a view to their direct transmission through Dhubri, and who have already been noticed in the annual report of the Superintendent of Emigration at that place, 7,634 emigrants of all classes (A, B, and C) were registered during the same period for transmission *viâ* Calcutta and Goalundo or Kooshtea.

The agency employed in collecting them is briefly shown in the subjoined tabular statement—

For transmission through	Through licensed recruiters on behalf of contractors, class A.	Through certificated garden sirdars		Total. (Including dependents)
		Authorised to recruit more than 20 coolies and to pass them through licensed depôts, class B.	Authorised to recruit not more than 20 coolies and to take them to the gardens independently of licensed depôts, class C.	
Calcutta depôts	4,900	1,039	.....	5,939
Goalundo depôts ..	268	504	.....	772
Merely for embarkation at Goalundo or Kooshtea .. .	None	None	923	923
Total ...	5,168	1,543	923	7,634

A comparison of the above figures with those for the previous year 1879-80 shows that the number of coolies under classes A and B, registered for transmission through the Calcutta depôts during the past year, is only about half that of the previous year, or as 5,939 to 11,803, the decrease being most marked in the case of class B coolies. On the other hand the number of coolies under both classes, registered for transmission through the Goalundo depôts, was nearly double that of the previous year, or as 772 to 423.

Of class C coolies who proceeded independently of the depôts there was, as compared with the previous year, a decrease of about 400 in number. The total number of all classes for the year 1880-81 being to that of the year 1879-80 as 7,634 to 13,550, or a little more than half.

Place of recruitment.

3. The districts where the coolies under the three classes A, B, and C respectively were registered are arranged in the subjoined table according to their importance as sources of supply.

Table showing where and on whose behalf the coolies under Class A were registered for transmission through Calcutta.

Names of Contractors.	Chota Nagpore.							Sonthal Pergunnahs.				Bengal.														Behar.								Orissa.			Grand Total.
	Lohardugga.	Pachumba.	Manbhoom.	Singbhoom.	Hazaribagh.	Gobindpore.	Total.	Rajmehal.	Doomka.	Sonthal Pergunnahs.	Total.	24-Pergunnahs.	Burdwan.	Raneegunge.	Sealdah.	Midnapore.	Bankoora.	Ranaghat.	Nuddea.	Beerbhoom.	Goalundo.	Bistopore.	Calcutta.	Hooghly.	Total.	Monghyr.	Patna.	Shahabad.	Gya.	Bhagulpore.	Durbhunga.	Jamool.	Buxar.	Total.	Cuttack.	Balasore.	Total.	
Mr. O. B. Andrews	132	...	12	3	18	...	165	...	...	...	...	424	96	95	...	45	110	...	...	...	...	...	3	...	773	43	45	17	46	66	21	...	...	238	46	...	46	1,222
,, V. Harvey	48	59	35	71	19	8	240	...	6	4	10	353	70	200	51	...	43	...	3	25	...	4	...	...	749	20	...	73	64	...	20	...	10	187	18	2	20	1,206
Baboo J. N. Datta	26	39	43	...	3	...	111	...	...	...	...	129	301	49	48	...	...	93	8	10	4	...	...	...	642	98	...	...	...	...	...	32	...	128	...	...	...	881
Mr. R. Hendry	8	32	15	...	4	49	108	98	...	...	98	10	135	156	13	72	7	...	...	...	1	...	...	2	396	17	130	8	...	5	...	...	...	160	4	56	60	822
Baboo B. P. Mitter	31	17	10	...	6	...	64	...	...	...	...	79	113	...	56	34	...	...	63	9	4	...	...	...	358	39	...	...	...	...	...	5	...	44	...	...	...	456
,, H. L. Mookerjee	...	...	2	...	14	4	20	...	...	...	...	2	29	13	...	12	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	57	8	...	17	...	6	...	...	...	31	...	8	8	116
,, K. M. Chatterjee	2	63	16	...	23	...	104	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	 4	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	104
Mr. A. W. Pickford	33	...	4	24	9	...	70	...	...	...	...	...	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	...	...	4	5	...	...	...	...	9	...	...	...	83
Total ...	280	210	137	98	96	61	882	98	6	4	108	997	748	513	168	163	160	93	74	45	9	4	3	2	2,979	223	175	119	115	77	41	37	10	797	68	66	134	4,900

Table showing the Districts where coolies under Class B were registered for transmission through the Calcutta Depôts.

Names of Contractors.	Chota Nagpore.						Sonthal Pergunnahs.			Bengal.					Behar.		Orissa.		Grand Total.
	Hazaribagh.	Manbhoom.	Lohardugga.	Gobindpore.	Pachumba.	Total.	Doomka.	Sonthal Pergunnahs.	Total.	Midnapore.	Bankoora.	Raneegunge.	Beerbhoom.	Total.	Gya.	Total.	Balasore.	Total.	
Mr. A. W. Pickford	228	203	107	...	...	538	24	...	24	105	13	6	5	129	78	78	...	...	769
„ V. Harvey	48	51	19	8	...	106	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	106
„ O B. Andrews	13	24	47	...	...	84	...	4	4	...	2	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	90
Baboo B. P. Mitter	..	19	10	...	...	29	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	29
Mr. R. Hendry	7	18	...	...	1	26	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	26
Baboo H L. Mookerjee	11	...	...	...	...	11	...	...	...	...	...	..	..	...	6	6	2	..	19
Total ..	307	295	183	8	1	794	24	4	28	105	15	6	5	131	84	84	2	2	1,039

Table showing the Districts where coolies under Classes A and B were registered for direct transmission through Goalundo.

Class.	Chota Nagpore.						Bengal.							Behar.				Grand Total.
	Lohardugga.	Manbhoom.	Hazaribagh.	Pachumba.	Singbhoom.	Total.	Burdwan.	Bankoora.	Midnapore.	Raneegunge.	Goalundo.	Alipore.	Total.	Monghyr.	Shahabad.	Gya.	Total.	
A	3	55	15	...	1	74	9	7	27	8	46	9	106	17	63	8	88	268
B	146	124	9	4	15	298	16	14	8	...	...	...	38	63	105	...	168	504
Total ...	149	179	24	4	16	372	25	21	35	8	46	9	144	80	168	8	256	772

Table showing Districts where coolies under Class C were registered.

Class.	Chota Nagpore.				Bengal.				Behar.						Grand Total.
	Lohardugga.	Manbhoom.	Hazaribagh.	Total.	Burdwan.	Bankoora.	Beerbhoom.	Total.	Patna.	Shahabad.	Gya.	Durbhunga.	Monghyr.	Total.	
C ...	57	94	75	226	17	51	16	84	3	487	74	1	48	613	923

By means of the following figures the total registrations (excluding those for Dhubri) of 1879-80 may be compared with those of 1880-81—

	1879-80.	1880-81.
Of class A	7,601	5,168
Ditto B	4,625	1,543
Ditto C	1,324	923
Total ...	13,550	7,634

The most marked decrease occurred among class B coolies—a result due to some extent no doubt to the increasing preference for despatching coolies of this class by the Dhubri route.

The percentage of coolies registered in the Chota Nagpore Division has continued to fall. This conclusion is based on the figures in the following statement, which has been drawn up with the object of affording the means of arriving at some idea of the manner in which, during the last four years, recruiters in search of labourers have had to shift their principal fields of operations from one district to another.

Statement showing the percentage of coolies that emigrated from the undermentioned Districts to the Labour Districts during the four years ending the 31st March 1881.

YEARS.	Chota Nagpore Districts.					Sonthal Pergunnahs Districts.					Bengal Districts.					Behar Districts.					Orissa Districts.					North-Western Provinces.				
	Class A.	Class B.	Goalundo, A and B.	Class C.	Total.	Class A.	Class B.	Goalundo, A and B.	Class C.	Total.	Class A.	Class B.	Goalundo, A and B.	Class C.	Total.	Class A.	Class B.	Goalundo, A and B.	Class C.	Total.	Class A.	Class B.	Goalundo, A and B.	Class C.	Total.	Class A.	Class B.	Goalundo, A and B.	Class C.	Total.
1877-78	41·37	77·10	...	43·40	48·38	3·47	3·57	...	4·78	3·87	37·38	8·57	...	6·46	23·08	16·87	10·74	...	48·47	24·86	0·39	...	...	...	0·15	1·14	...	...	2·79	0·86
1878-79	60·48	73·60	...	52·19	65·35	3·10	3·07	...	4·23	3·18	23·80	4·41	...	12·98	14·66	12·16	17·26	...	26·81	15·56	0·06	...	...	...	0·02	...	1·33	...	3·76	0·39
1879-80	30·42	69·29	57·68	40·33	44·47	1·81	1·44	...	2·34	2·94	28·28	5·98	21·27	14·72	19·75	5·42	19·01	42·31	41·99	14·41	...	0·25	...	...	0·08	0·06	...	...	...	0·06
1880 81	17·95	76·07	48·19	24·48	29·62	2·20	2·73	...	...	1·78	60·84	12·79	18·65	9·10	43·81	16·28	8·20	33·16	66·41	22·98	2·73	0·19	...	...	1·78	...	...	...	...	...
Total	40·05	74·10	52·93	40·25	51·83	2·64	3·02	...	2·83	3·30	37·57	7·93	19·96	10·81	21·61	12·68	13·80	31·08	45·94	19·91	0·77	0·22	...	...	0·24	0·50	1·33	...	3·27	0·49

It may be noticed, for example, that the average proportion of coolies recruited during the last four years in the districts of Chota Nagpore is nearly 52 per cent.; but while in 1878-79 (the year of excessive mortality from cholera) the proportion recruited in those districts exceeded that average, in 1880-81 it fell considerably short of it.

A comparison of the average proportion of labourers recruited during the last four years in each of the chief fields of recruitment for the colonies on the one hand, and the tea districts on the other, is not altogether without interest, and I have endeavoured to facilitate the comparison by exhibiting the results of such recruitment in round numbers, thus—

For the Colonies—British and Foreign.	Average percentage recruited.	For the labour districts	Average percentage recruited.
In the North-Western Provinces ...	52	In Chota Nagpore	52
„ Oudh	21	„ Bengal	21
„ Behar	19	„ Behar	19
„ other districts	8	„ other districts	8

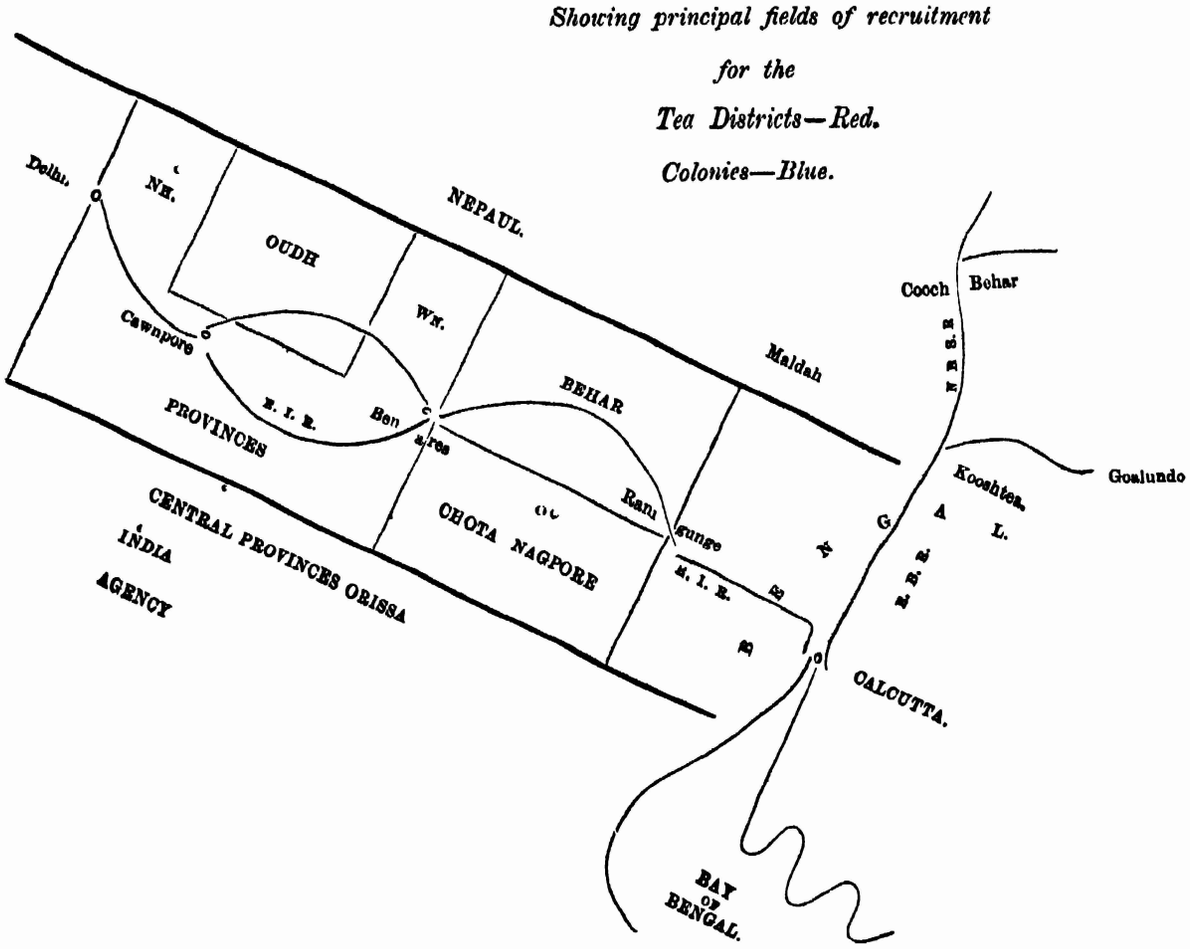
ROUGH DIAGRAM

Showing principal fields of recruitment

for the

Tea Districts—Red.

Colonies—Blue.



Evidently Chota Nagpore, as a source of supply, has been to the tea districts what the North-West has been to the colonies, while Behar has afforded common ground for inland and colonial recruiters. It is necessary to observe, however, that while the collection of labourers for the tea districts appears to have been more or less confined to the south-eastern parts of Behar, that for the colonies appears to have been conducted chiefly in the north-western portions of that division. Other conditions remaining the same if the field of recruitment for the labour districts extends into the ground hitherto held by the colonial recruiters, they cannot but retreat still further northward and seek in the Punjab or elsewhere for what they may fail to secure in the North-Western Provinces and Oudh. Evidences of this tendency in recruiting operations are even now not altogether absent.

SECTION III.

TRANSPORT.

Routes adopted.

1. The subjoined is a statement of the routes followed by labourers under classes A, B, and C, travelling from the districts in which they were recruited to those for which they were engaged. It does not include coolies under class C for Cachar and Sylhet, as it is not precisely known how they travelled; but the inference is that they followed the same routes as those of the other two classes who embarked for Cachar and Sylhet, either at Goalundo or Kooshtea in country boats. As compared with 1879-80, the routes continued the same, but that *viâ* Rajmehal was even still less used, and may now be regarded as abandoned, while the number of coolies for Assam who embarked at Goalundo fell to about half that of the previous year, and of the numbers that embarked *viâ* Dhubri. In short, the figures of the past two years clearly show a steadily-increasing preference for Dhubri as a place of embarkation for coolies proceeding to Assam. It seems scarcely necessary to add that coolies for Chittagong embarked at Calcutta in the sea-going steamers of the British India Steam Navigation Company.

Year.	Accommodated in the Calcutta depôts having travelled from the recruiting districts by East Indian Railway, or by boat, or on foot to Calcutta.			Embarked at Calcutta.	Arrived at Goalundo or Kooshtea											Embarked at Goalundo or Kooshtea.				Arrived at Dhubri					Embarked at, and marched from, Dhubri.			Remarks.
					Viâ Calcutta.			Independently of Calcutta.												*Viâ* Calcutta.	Independently of Calcutta.							
					Travelled by East Indian Railway, or by boat, or on foot to Calcutta; thence by Eastern Bengal Railway to Goalundo or Kooshtea.			Travelled by East Indian Railway, or by boat, or on foot to Mugra station; thence crossing the Hooghly to Kanchrapara; thence by Eastern Bengal Railway to Goalundo or Kooshtea.												Travelled by East Indian Railway, or by boat to Calcutta; thence by Eastern Bengal Railway to Damookdea; thence by steam-ferry across the Ganges or Pudma to Sara; thence by Northern Bengal State Railway to Kungpore or Kawnia; and thence to Dhubri.	Travelled by East Indian Railway to Mugra station; thence across the river Hooghly to Kanchrapara; thence by Eastern Bengal Railway to Damookdea; thence by steam-ferry across the Ganges or Pudma to Sara; thence by Northern Bengal State Railway to Kungpore or Kawnia; and thence to Dhubri.	Travelled by East Indian Railway to Rajmehal; thence across the Ganges by boat to Maldah; thence *viâ* Maldah, Dinagepore, and Rungpore to Dhubri.						
	Balance of previous year.	Arrivals during the current year.	Total.	For Chittagong.	Balance of previous year at Goalundo.	Arrivals.	Total.	Contractors. Balance of previous year.	Contractors. Arrivals.	Contractors. Total.	Sirdari. Balance of previous year.	Sirdari. Arrivals.	Sirdari. Total.	Total.	Grand total.	For Assam.	For Cachar.	For Sylhet.	Total.				Total.	Grand total.	Embarked for Assam in river steamers.	Marched up to Assam.	Total.	
				In sea-going steamers.												In river steamers.	In country boats.											
1880-81 ...	318	5,683	6,001	57	153	4,724	4,877	8	261	269	29	499	528	797	5,674	3,294	1,272	229	4,795	216	7,339	44	7,383	7,599	6,974	392	7,366	It may be explained generally that the difference existing between the total number temporarily accommodated at a place, and the number ultimately despatched from it, is due to the casualties and detentions that occurred in each case.

2. Coolies under classes A and B—

(*a*) *Of those forwarded to the Calcutta depôts.*—The 5,939 coolies registered for transmission through the Calcutta depôts were reduced in number prior to their arrival at Calcutta in the following manner:—

By detention	136
By casualties	120
Total ...	256

so that only 5,683 arrived at Calcutta.

The following table gives details of the above detentions and casualties under both classes separately:—

Particulars of emigrants and their dependents.				Total of districts.			Particulars of mofussil depôts.									Total number despatched from all districts.	Particulars of journey to Calcutta.								Grand total of casualties and detentions subsequent to registration, but prior to arrival at depôt.		Number arrived.
	System of recruiting.	How proceeding to labour districts.	Contractors.	Emigrants.	Dependents.	Total	Detained.		Discharged.		Deserted.		Died.		Total.			Left behind.		Deserted.		Died.		Total.				
							Number.	Percentage.	Number.	Percentage.	Number.	Percentage.	Number.	Percentage.	Number.	Percentage.		Number.	Percentage.	Number.	Percentage.	Number.	Percentage.	Number.	Percentage.	Number.	Percentage.	
Class A.	Class A emigrants recruited by depôt recruiters.	Through Calcutta depôts.	Mr. O. B. Andrews	1,076	146	1,222	1	*0·08	1	0·08	1	0·08	.	..	3	0·24	1,219	5	0·41	14	1·14	...	...	19	1·55	22	1·80	1,200
			,, V. Harvey	1,033	173	1,206			14	1·16	21	1·74	..	...	35	2·90	1,171	...	..	5	0·42	...	...	5	0·42	40	3·31	1,166
			Baboo J. N. Datta	779	102	881	2	0·22	...	.	11	1·24	..	..	13	1·47	868	.	..	16	1·84	...	...	16	1·84	29	3·29	852
			Mr. R. Hendry	693	129	822	16	1·94	...	...	12	1·45	...	..	28	3·40	794	...	...	3	0·37	...	...	3	0·37	31	3·77	791
			Baboo B. P. Mitter	382	84	466	...	...	...	..	1	0·21	...	.	1	0·21	465	3	0·64	7	1·50	...	...	10	2·15	11	2·36	455
			,, H. L. Mookerjee.	108	8	116	..	...	...	..	.	...	...	...	...	...	116	...	...	1	0·86	...		1	0·86	1	0·86	115
			,, K. M. Chatterjee.	80	24	104	4	3·80	...	...	1	0·96	..	..	5	4·80	99	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5	4·80	94
			Mr. A. W. Pickford	63	20	83	15	18·07	...	...	...	...	...	...	15	18·07	68	1	1·47	...	...	...	...	1	1·47	16	19·27	67
			Total	4,214	686	4,900	38	0·77	15	0·30	47	0·95	...	...	100	2·04	4,800	9	1·87	46	0·96	...	...	55	1·14	155	3·16	4,745
Class B.	Class B emigrants recruited by sirdar recruiters.	Through Calcutta depôts.	Mr. A. W. Pickford	482	287	769	42	5·46	2	0·26	2	0·26	...	..	46	5·99	723	10	1·38	...	...	...	...	10	1·38	56	7·28	713
			,, O. B. Andrews	61	29	90	.	.	...	...	1	1·11	...	..	1	1·11	89	...	...	...	..	...	...	...	...	1	0·13	89
			,, V. Harvey	70	36	106	37	34·90	...	..	1	0·94	.	...	38	35·84	68	...	...	1	1·47	1	1·47	2	2·94	40	5·20	66
			Baboo B. P. Mitter	15	14	29	.	...	..	...	...	...	.	.	...	.	29	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	29
			Mr. R. Hendry	21	5	26	..	...	..	..	3	11·53	...	..	3	11·53	23	...	...	1	4·34	...	...	1	4·34	4	0·52	22
			Baboo H. L. Mookerjee.	15	4	19	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	..	...	19	...	...	...	...	...	...	..	...	...	...	19
			Total	664	375	1,039	*79	7·60	2	0·19	7	0·67	...	..	88	8·46	951	10	0·10	2	0·21	1	1·05	13	1·36	101	13·13	938

* This apparently large number (79) of detentions is due merely to the fact that they were registered at the close of the year 1880-81, and therefore did not arrive in depôt till 1881-82—the present official year.

The total percentage of detentions and casualties taken together that occurred between the time of registration and that of arrival in depôt among class B coolies seems at first sight to be excessive in comparison with the corresponding results of the previous year, thus—

Class.	Total percentage of detentions and casualties prior to arrival in depôts during the year. 1879-80.	1880-81.
A	2·98	3·16
B	2·05	9·72

But as noticed in the foot-note to the above detailed statement, this marked difference is due merely to the fact that a batch of 79 coolies under class B, registered at the close of the year 1880-81, did not arrive in depôt until the opening of the present official year (1881-82), and it has therefore been necessary to enter this number in the column for detention for the past year.

THE CALCUTTA DEPOTS.

The following table gives details regarding the total number of both classes respectively that remained in depôt undisposed of at the close of the previous year; the number accommodated during the year 1880-81; and, so far as the depôts were concerned, the manner in which they were disposed of by the end of the year.

Class.	Contractors through whose depôts the coolies were transmitted.	Total number arrived in depôt.	Total number undisposed of last year.	Total number born in depôt.	Total number accommodated in the depôt.	Daily average strength of emigrants in depôt.	Daily average sick in hospital.	Total rejections. Number. Emigrants.	Total rejections. Number. Dependents.	Total rejections. Number. Total.	Total rejections. Percentage. Emigrants.	Total rejections. Percentage. Dependents.	Total rejections. Percentage. Total.	Total number discharged. Number.	Total number discharged. Percentage.	Total number deserted. Number.	Total number deserted. Percentage.	Mortality. Cholera. Number.	Mortality. Cholera. Percentage.	Mortality. Other causes. Number.	Mortality. Other causes. Percentage.	Mortality. Total. Number.	Mortality. Total. Percentage.	Total number passed.	Total number forwarded to Goalundo.	Total number forwarded to Chittagong.	Total number forwarded to Dhubri.	Total number despatched.	Number temporarily delayed.	Number remaining at the close of the year.	Average detention. Maximum.	Average detention. Average.	Average detention. Minimum.
A.	Mr. O. B Andrews ..	1,300	45	..	1,245	3 41	0·39	73	3	76	5·86	0·24	6·10	52	4·17	43	3·61	...	..	3	0·24	3	0·24	1,069	975	29	...	996	..	74	35	19	4
	„ V. Harvey ...	1,166	51	...	1,217	3·33	1·56	74	14	88	6·08	1·15	7·23	48	3·94	55	4·51	...	.	...	...	...		1,036	1,009	...	...	1,009	.	17	28	15	5
	Baboo J N Datta .	852	11	...	863	2·36	0·37	56	8	64	6·48	0·92	7 41	28	3 24	46	5 33	..	...	2	0·23	2	0·23	723	673	...	...	673	..	50	20	12	5
	Mr R Hendry	791	31	.	822	2·52	0·46	36	6	42	4·37	0·72	5 10	17	2 06	43	5·23	...	.	1	0·12	1	0·12	719	693	...	..	693	..	36	15	10	3
	Baboo B. P Mitter ..	453	7	...	462	1 26	0·13	26	1	27	5·62	0·21	5 84	14	3·03	21	4 54	..		1	0·21	1	0·21	399	393	..	...	393	..	6	46	24	3
	„ H. L. Mookerjee.	115	7	..	122	1·006	0·93	5	2	7	4·09	1·63	5 73	4	3·27	9	7 37	.	..	.	..	..	..	102	20	...	82	102	...	...	4	3	2
	„ K. M. Chatterjee.	99	.	...	99	0 54	0·03	3	.	3	3 03	.	3·03	.	...	2	2·02	.	..	...	.	...	...	94	55	37	2	94	..	...	4	3	2
	Mr. A. W. Pickford .	67	..	..	67	0·76	0 12	2	.	2	2·98	...	2·98	3	4 17	4	5·97	..		..	.	...	...	58	56	...	...	56	...	2	4	3	2
	Total	4,745	152		4,897	1 90	0 49	275	34	309	5·61	0·69	6·30	166	3·38	225	4·59	.		7	0·14	7	0 14	4,120	3,874	57	84	4,015	.	175	19	11	3
B.	Mr A. W Pickford ...	713	16	.	729	2·34	0·33	36	.	36	4 93		4·93	26	3·56	..	..	..	..	1	0·13	1	0·13	666	635	...	...	635	.	31	8	5	3
	„ O B. Andrews .	89	..	..	89	0·74	0·06	7	.	7	7·85		7·85	3	3·37	.	..	..	.	...	.	..	..	79	77	..	.	77	...	2	5	4	3
	„ V Harvey .	66	6	..	72	0 47	0·09	3	1	4	4 16	1·38	5 55			.	...	.	.	..	...	..	..	68	61	...	..	61	...	7	12	8	4
	Baboo B. P Mitter	29		..	29	0 47			...		.	.		1	3·44	.	..	.	..	..	...	.	.	28	28	..	..	28	...	.	5	4	3
	Mr. R Hendry .	22	11	.	33	0 37	0 04	3	.	3	9·09	..	9·09	...		..		.	..	..	..	.	..	30	30	..	..	30	..	..	5	3	2
	Baboo H. L. Mookerjee.	19	133	..	152	1·65	0·62	1	..	1	0·65	.	0·65	.		..	...	..	.	..	..		.	151	19	..	132	151		..	82	27	3
	Total .	938	166		1,104	1·006	0·71	50	1	51	4·53	0·09	4·61	30	2·71	...	.	.		1	0·09	1	0·09	1,022	850		122	982	.	40	14	8	3

From the above figures it appears that an aggregate of only 6,601 coolies of both classes, as against 12,591 in 1879-80, was temporarily accommodated in and transmitted through the Calcutta depôts during the year 1880-81

Casualties in Depôt.

	1879-80.		1880-81.	
Daily average strength	33·80		1·90	
Ditto sick in hospital	0·06		0·49*	
	Number.	Percentage.	Number.	Percentage.
Rejections, including relatives	868	7·06	309	6·30
Ditto, excluding ditto	691	5·62	275	5·61
Discharges, including transfers	594	4·83	166	3·38
Desertions	480	3·90	225	4·59
Deaths from cholera	53	0·43	.....	.....
Total deaths	82	0·66	7	0·14
Sent to Campbell Hospital and not returned within the year	None	None	None	None

* Due chiefly to malarious fever, which was very prevalent during the past year.

Excepting a slight increase in the percentage of desertions, which is more than balanced by a decrease in the percentage of discharges on account of unwillingness to emigrate, the operations of the year at this stage bear favourable comparison with those of the year 1879-80.

The most conspicuous and satisfactory result—one that has never before been attained since the commencement of emigration to the tea districts, and the transmission of coolies through depôts, whether at Calcutta or elsewhere—is, as already observed, the absolute immunity from cholera. Looking, however, to the fact that "the most satisfactory feature in the sanitary history of the year (1880) was the remarkable decrease of cholera," more or less throughout Bengal, I cannot but repeat what was said in last year's annual report on this subject, to the effect that, although constant attention to general cleanliness and a pure water-supply in the depôts must have favourably influenced the health of their inmates, nevertheless, in view of other co-existing conditions that may have contributed in an unknown degree to the gratifying result noticed, it is impossible to determine the precise share each may have had in its causation.

The general sanitary condition of the depôts, to which Dr. Chandra has continued to bestow assiduous attention, is favourably reported on by him; and the results, as evidenced by the comparatively trifling amount of serious sickness and mortality in the depôts during the period under review, must be due, in some degree at least, to the care which the sanitary management of the depôts has received.

Detention of coolies in depôt.

The maximum detention in depôt was for a period of 52 days, the minimum for two days, and the average nine days. As the bi-weekly despatch of coolies for the labour districts has continued throughout the year, there has never been any prolonged detention except in the case of individuals kept back on account of illness or other unavoidable cause.

Rejections on account of physical unfitness.

Dr. Chandra, the Medical Inspector of Emigrants, in his annual report for the past year, states that the percentage of rejections is "somewhat lower than that of the preceding year owing to greater strictness being at present observed in the mofussil inspections." As to the causes of rejection, he observes that "the largest numbers, nearly a half, were as usual rejected on account of enlarged spleen; next in order come those with very weak and sickly constitutions combined with anæmia, forming a little less than one-fourth, and then follow cases of mental affections, venereal disease, old age, &c." As compared with the previous year, the percentage of rejections among emigrants and dependents of the two classes is the following:—

Year.	1879-80.		1880-81.	
Class.	A.	B.	A.	B.
Emigrants	7·23	3·03	5·61	4·52
Dependents	1·81	0·83	0·69	0·05
Total ...	9·06	3·86	6·30	4·61

Despatched through Calcutta.

By the close of the year 1880-81 there had been despatched from the several labour districts 4,997 coolies, leaving a balance at the time in depôt of 215 coolies to be accounted for in next year's annual report. The following statement shows for the past two years the aggregate numbers forwarded from Calcutta to each of the labour districts:—

Embarked at	Destination.	Years. 1879-80.	Years. 1880-81.
Calcutta	Chittagong	168	57
Goalundo	Assam	6,383	3,219
	Cachar	2,757	1,280
	Sylhet	456	225
Dhubri	Assam	172	216
	Total ...	9,936	4,997

CHITTAGONG.

The subjoined table gives details of the total number of labourers and their dependents who embarked for Chittagong, where they are reported to have arrived without any casualties:—

Months.	Number of Emigrants embarked. Emigrants. Men.	Emigrants. Women.	Emigrants. Total.	Dependents. Men.	Dependents. Women.	Dependents. Boys.	Dependents. Girls.	Dependents. Infants.	Dependents. Total.	Percentage of females to males.	Mode of transit.	Deserted.	Particulars of passage. Cholera. Number.	Cholera. Percentage.	Other causes. Number.	Other causes. Percentage.	Total Number.	Total Percentage.	Name of contractors forwarding.
1880.																			
April ...	...	...	...	...	..	...	.	...	...	.....	By steamers.	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	Mr. O. B. Andrews.
May ...	..	...	..	...	.	...	...	...	...	.....									
June ...	12	...	12	...	...	...	...	...	12	.....									
July ...	8	...	8	...	...	...	...	...	8	.....									
August ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	.....									
September	...	...	...	...	...	...	..	...	...	.....									
October ...	...	...	...	...	..	...	...	..	...	.....									
November ..	2	2	4	...	...	...	...	...	4	100									K. M. Chatterjee
December...	14	5	19	...	...	1	...	...	20	35·71									
1881.																			
January ..	*7	2	9	...	...	...	...	...	9	28·57									
February ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	..	...	...	.....									Ditto.
March ...	1	2	3	...	...	...	...	1	4	.....									
Total ...	44	11	55	...	...	1	...	1	57	25·00	...	.	...	...	...	...	...	...	

GOALUNDO.

The total number of coolies of both classes (A and B) that arrived at Goalundo for embarkation there is shown below:—

Where from	Number despatched. Class A.	Class B.	Total.	Deductions for casualties on the journey to Goalundo. Class A.	Class B.	Total.	Arrived at Goalundo. Class A	Class B.	Total.
I.—Calcutta depôts ..	3,874	850	4,724	....	.....	.....	3,874	850	4,724
II.—Recruiting districts direct ..	268	504	772	7	5	12	261	499	760
Total ...	4,142	1,354	5,496	7	5	12	4,135	1,349	5,484

Those despatched by train from Calcutta arrived without any casualties, whereas those from the recruiting districts suffered a loss of twelve persons on the journey to Goalundo.

Goalundo depôts.

Dr. Prockter, who officiated during Dr. Richards' absence as Medical Inspector of Emigrants and Superintendent of Emigration at Goalundo, states in his annual report on the operations of the past year that all embarkations were conducted at Goalundo; that the contractors named in the margin continued to maintain depôts there; and that the arrangements for the supply of pure water, and the general conservancy of the depôts, continued as efficiently carried out as they were during the previous year.

Mr. O. B. Andrews.
" V. Harvey.
" R. Hendry.
" A. W Pickford.
Baboo J. N. Datta.
" H. L. Mookerjee.
" B. P. Mitter.

Casualties on the journey to, and during stay at, Goalundo.

The percentage of casualties among the coolies during their journey to Goalundo, and their temporary detention there prior to embarkation, as compared with that of the year 1879-80, is as follows:—

Stage of occurrence.	Percentage of total casualties in 1879-80.	Percentage of total casualties in 1880-81.
1. During journey—		
(a) From Calcutta	0 03	0 0
(b) . " districts	4 0	1·55
2. At Goalundo	0 87	0·80

In regard to the casualties that occurred at Goalundo, Dr. Prockter shows that there were no rejections on account of physical unfitness from among the coolies forwarded from the Calcutta depôts, and that the percentage of rejections from among those who arrived from the recruiting districts slightly exceeds that of 1879-80. The percentage of mortality, however, as calculated on the total number accommodated at Goalundo, is less than that of 1879-80, which result Dr. Prockter is disposed to ascribe to the smaller number of emigrants transmitted, the general healthiness of Goalundo during the past year, the strictness with which the coolies were medically examined prior to their arrival at Goalundo, and the purity of the water-supply at that place.

Proportion of sexes, &c., embarked.

Of the total number embarked at Goalundo for the labour districts, Dr. Prockter states that—

77·48 per cent were emigrants;
22·51 " " dependents.

Of both these classes taken together—

49 64 per cent were men;
30 71 " " women;
15·23 " " children;
4·40 " " infants.

results showing that the percentages of men and women were larger, and those of children and infants smaller than those of the previous year.

Summary.

The subjoined statement briefly accounts for the total number of coolies transmitted *viâ* Goalundo:—

Despatched and arrived from Calcutta			4,724
Direct from recruiting districts			772
Deduct for casualties on the journey.			
Deaths	4	...	12
Desertions	8	...	
Total number arrived from districts			760
Balance of previous year in Goalundo			190
Total accommodated in Goalundo depôts during the year			5,674
Deduct for casualties at Goalundo.			
Deaths ... ... 7 or 0·12 per cent...			
Desertions ... ... 19 or 0 33 " ...	Total	...	45 (or 0 80 p c)
Released as unwilling ... 3 or 0 05 " ...			
Rejections ... ... 16 or 0 28 " ...			
Balance available for despatch to labour districts			5,629
Total number embarked for the several labour districts			5,560
Balance in Goalundo depôts at close of year 1880-81			69

Of the total number (5,560) despatched from Goalundo during the year, those embarked for Assam, Cachar, and Sylhet, respectively, may now be separately considered.

EMBARKATION AT GOALUNDO.

For Assam.—The following table gives details regarding those embarked in steamers for Assam :—

Class	Emigrants.			Dependents						Grand Total
	Male.	Female	Total.	Male	Female	Boys	Girls.	Infants.	Total.	
A	1,648	887	2,535	6	30	172	132	100	440	2,975
B	139	78	217	3	10	49	19	21	102	319
C	None *ved* Goalundo									
Total	1,787	965	2,752	9	40	221	151	121	542	3,294

OF THE PASSAGE TO ASSAM.

The total number of coolies entered above were conveyed during the year in fifteen licensed steamers, which are shown in the subjoined statement to have made 66 trips during that period. It will be seen that the average number of individuals carried is for each trip only 49, and the average length of passage was somewhat less than that of previous years, or 15 days and 9 hours.

Months.	Names of vessels.	Names of medical officers.	Names of commanders.	Date of departure.	Number of days on the passage.	Number of emigrants under conveyance.				Mortality amongst emigrants during the passage.								Total percentage of deaths from all causes.	Vessels in which cholera occurred.
										Contractors.				Garden sirdars despatched through contractors.					
										Cholera.		Other causes.		Cholera.		Other causes.			
						Contractors.	Sirdari through contractors.	Sirdari independently of contractors.	Total.	Number.	Percentage.	Number.	Percentage.	Number.	Percentage.	Number.	Percentage.		
1880.				1880.															
April	Nepaul	Mr. J. Creais	A. W. Bull	1st April	19	34	57	.....	91	...	.....	...	.....	...	.....	...	.....	.....	.....
...	Lahore	„ R. Sinclair	T. H. Hockley	3rd „	19	38	16	.....	54	...	.....	...	.....	...	.....	...	.....	.....	.....
„	Mysore	Baboo H. L. Dutt	W. A. Elder	7th „	19	23	7	.....	30	...	.....	...	.....	...	.....	...	.....	.....	.....
„	Indore	Mr. R. St. Romaine	J. W. Fox	15th „	13	53	19	.....	72	...	.....	...	.....	...	.....	...	.....	.....	.....
„	Burmah	„ W. Davidson	J. Lemon	21st „	15	72	14	.....	86	...	.....	...	.....	...	.....	...	.....	.....	.....
„	Sudya	.....	J. W. Saker	24th „	12	13	.....	.....	13	...	.....	...	.....	...	.....	...	.....	.....	.....
„	Cashmere	Baboo U. C. Ghose	W. Stevenson	29th „	13	36	.....	.....	36	...	.....	...	.....	...	.....	...	.....	.....	.....
May	Tezpore	.....	W. Reaks	1st May	17	18	10	.....	28	...	.....	...	.....	...	.....	...	.....	.....	.....
„	Scinde	Mr. J. H. Gorman	J. Watson	6th „	12	63	23	.....	86	...	.....	...	.....	...	.....	...	.....	.....	.....
„	Mirzapore	.....	W. H. Haney	9th „	17	16	2	.....	18	...	.....	...	.....	...	.....	...	.....	.....	.....
„	Simla	Mr. G. H. Booth	W. J. Spracklin	15th „	15	66	.....	.....	66	...	.....	...	.....	...	.....	...	.....	.....	.....
„	Indore	„ J. Creais	J. W. Fox	19th „	14	27	.....	.....	27	...	.....	...	.....	...	.....	...	.....	.....	.....
„	Agra	„ J. Kelly	W. Sharling	23rd „	16	12	.....	.....	12	...	.....	...	.....	...	.....	...	.....	.....	.....
„	Rajmehal	„ R. Sinclair	L. Kerver	29th „	17	56	.....	.....	56	...	.....	...	.....	...	.....	...	.....	.....	.....
June	Mysore	„ R. St. Romaine	J. H. Elder	2nd June	14	39	.....	.....	39	...	.....	1	2·56	...	.....	...	.....	.....	.....
„	Lahore	Baboo U. C. Ghose	T. H. Hockley	5th „	16	37	.....	.....	37	...	.....	...	.....	...	.....	...	.....	.....	.....
„	Cashmere	Mr. J. H. Gorman	W. J. Stevenson	16th „	13	82	.....	.....	82	...	.....	...	.....	...	.....	...	.....	.....	.....
„	Tezpore	.....	W. Reaks	19th „	19	4	.....	.....	4	...	.....	...	.....	...	.....	...	.....	.....	.....
July	Mirzapore	Mr. J. Creais	W. H. Haney	3rd July	18	29	.....	.....	29	...	.....	...	.....	...	.....	...	.....	.....	.....
„	Sudya	„ J. R. McCormick	J. W. Saker	10th „	17	45	.....	.....	45	...	.....	...	.....	...	.....	...	.....	.....	.....
„	Nepaul	.....	A. W. Ball	15th „	21	24	.....	.....	24	...	.....	...	.....	...	.....	...	.....	.....	.....
„	Agra	„ J. Creais	C. Sharling	17th „	17	47	.....	.....	47	...	.....	...	.....	...	.....	...	.....	.....	.....
„	Rajmehal	„ J. Kelly	C. Kerver	21st „	17	37	.....	.....	37	...	.....	...	.....	...	.....	...	.....	.....	.....
„	Lahore	„ G. H. Booth	T. H. Hockley	31st „	13	42	.....	.....	42	...	.....	...	.....	...	.....	...	.....	.....	.....
August	Scinde	.....	J. Watson	6th August	8	21	.....	.....	21	...	.....	...	.....	...	.....	...	.....	.....	.....
„	Simla	.....	W. J. Spracklin	7th „	13	10	.....	.....	10	...	.....	...	.....	...	.....	...	.....	.....	.....
„	Mysore	Mr. W. H. Davidson	T. H. Elder	12th „	14	54	.....	.....	54	...	.....	...	.....	...	.....	...	.....	.....	.....
„	Tezpore	.....	W. Reaks	15th „	13	32	.....	.....	32	...	.....	...	.....	...	.....	...	.....	.....	.....
„	Dibrugarh	Mr. J. H. Gorman	T. Walters	21st „	17	12	.....	.....	12	...	.....	...	.....	...	.....	...	.....	.....	.....
„	Mirzapore	.....	T. H. Haney	28th „	14	25	.....	.....	25	...	.....	...	.....	...	.....	...	.....	.....	.....
September	Sudya	Mr. F. S. Cooper	J. W. Saker	4th September	20	61	.....	.....	61	...	.....	...	.....	...	.....	...	.....	.....	.....
„	Nepaul	.....	A. W. Bull	8th „	6	19	.....	.....	19	...	.....	...	.....	...	.....	...	.....	.....	.....
„	Agra	.....	C. Sharling	12th „	16	34	.....	.....	34	...	.....	...	.....	...	.....	...	.....	.....	.....
„	Indore	.....	J. W. Fox	16th „	11	36	.....	.....	36	...	.....	...	.....	...	.....	...	.....	.....	.....
„	Scinde	.....	J. Watson	24th „	12	62	.....	.....	62	...	.....	...	.....	...	.....	...	.....	.....	.....
„	Lahore	.....	T. H. Hockley	25th „	18	8	.....	.....	8	...	.....	...	.....	...	.....	...	.....	.....	.....
October	Mysore	.....	J. H. Elder	6th October	14	96	.....	.....	96	...	.....	...	.....	...	.....	...	.....	.....	.....
„	Tezpore	.....	W. D. Reaks	10th „	18	50	.....	.....	50	...	.....	...	.....	...	.....	...	.....	.....	.....
„	Sudya	.....	J. W. Saker	30th „	16	59	.....	.....	59	...	.....	...	.....	...	.....	...	.....	.....	.....
November	Mysore	Mr. R. Sinclair	J. H. Elder	7th November	16	149	.....	.....	149	...	.....	...	.....	...	.....	...	.....	.....	.....
„	Indore	.....	J. W. Fox	27th „	13	33	.....	.....	33	...	.....	...	.....	...	.....	...	.....	.....	.....
„	Simla	.....	W. Spracklin	27th „	15	43	.....	.....	43	...	.....	...	.....	...	.....	...	.....	.....	.....
December	Tezpore	None	W. Reaks	4th December	16	74	7	.....	81	...	.....	...	.....	...	.....	...	.....	.....	.....
„	Dibrugarh	.....	F. Walters	11th „	12	16	.....	.....	16	...	.....	...	.....	...	.....	...	.....	.....	.....

Months.	Names of vessels.	Names of medical officers.	Names of commanders.	Date of departure.	Number of days on the passage.	Number of emigrants under conveyance.				Mortality amongst emigrants during the passage.								Total percentage of deaths from all causes.	Vessels in which cholera occurred.
										Contractors.				Garden sirdars despatched through contractors.					
										Cholera.		Other causes.		Cholera.		Other causes.			
						Contractors.	Sirdari through contractors.	Sirdari independently of contractors.	Total.	Number.	Percentage.	Number.	Percentage.	Number.	Percentage.	Number.	Percentage.		
1880.				1880.															
December ...	Dhubri	....	W. Rose	18th December ...	16	25	.....	.....	25	...	.....	...	.....	...	.....	...	.....	.....	.....
"	Cashmere	....	W. Stevenson	23rd "	15	27	.....	.....	27	...	.....	...	.....	...	.....	...	.....	.....	.....
"	Burmah	....	J. Lemon	9th "	13	.....	8	.....	8	...	.....	...	.....	...	.....	...	.....	.....	.....
1881.				1881.															
January ...	Sudya	None	J. W. Saker	2nd January ...	17	46	.....	.....	46	...	.....	...	.....	...	.....	...	.....	.....	.....
"	Mysore	Mr. J. Creais	J. H. Elder	5th "	17	63	.....	.....	63	...	...	...	.....	...	.....	...	.....	.....	.....
"	Agra	None	C. Sharling	8th "	16	29	.....	.....	29	...	.....	...	.....	...	.....	...	.....	.....	.....
"	Rajmehal	....	C. Kerver	15th "	17	24	4	.....	28	...	.....	...	.....	...	.....	...	.....	.....	.....
"	Scinde	....	J. Watson	20th "	15	56	.....	.....	56	...	.....	...	.....	...	.....	...	.....	.....	.....
"	Cashmere	....	W. Stevenson...	31st "	16	85	.....	.....	85	...	.....	...	.....	...	.....	...	.....	.....	.....
February ...	Simla	Mr. J. R. McCormick	W. J. Spracklin	6th February ...	12	19	.....	.....	19	...	.....	...	.....	...	.....	...	.....	.....	.....
"	Dibrugarh	Baboo H. P. Banerjee	W. Rose	13th "	15	100	1	.....	101	...	.....	...	.....	...	.....	...	.....	.....	.....
"	Indore	Mr. G. H. Booth	J. W. Fox	17th "	14	115	14	.....	129	...	.....	2*	1·55	...	.....	...	.....	.....	*1 drowned.
"	Dhubri	....	F. Walters	20th "	15	30	.....	.....	30	...	.....	...	.....	...	.....	...	.....	.....	.....
"	Mirzapore	Mr. J. R. McCormick	W. H. Haney...	27th "	13	67	47	.....	114	...	.....	...	.....	...	.....	...	.....	.....	.....
March	Mysore	Baboo G. D. Roy	J. H. Elder	4th March ...	14	119	1	.....	120	...	.....	...	.....	...	.....	...	.....	.....	.....
"	Sudya	Mr. J. Creais	J. W. Saker	6th "	15	.....	11	.....	11	...	.....	...	.....	...	.....	...	.....	.....	.....
"	Scinde	" G. H. Booth	G. Watson	11th "	14	63	34	.....	97	...	.....	...	.....	...	.....	...	.....	.....	.....
"	Agra	Baboo H P. Banerjee	C. Sharling	12th "	17	67	21	.....	88	...	.....	...	.....	...	.....	...	.....	.....	.....
"	Rajmehal	....	C. Kerver	20th "	17	79	6	.....	85	...	.....	...	.....	...	.....	...	.....	.....	.....
"	Indore	Mr. R. Sinclair	J. W. Fox	20th "	14	49	2	.....	51	...	.....	...	.....	...	.....	...	.....	.....	.....
"	Tezpore	" J. Kelly	W. Reaks	26th "	16	70	15	.....	85	...	.....	...	.....	...	.....	...	.....	.....	.....
"	Cashmere	.. ..	W. Stevenson	31st "	12	35	.....	.....	35	..	.....	...	.....	...	.....	...	.....	.....	.....
				Total ...	...	2,975	319	.....	3,294	...	.....	3	0·09	...	.....	...	...	.....	.....

Casualties on the passage to Assam.

It is gratifying to notice the continued absence of cholera throughout the passage to Assam from among the entire body of coolies embarked in steamers at Goalundo. Dr. Chandra remarks on this point in his annual report "that there was no cholera or death among those despatched from Calcutta. In the month of April 1880 there was an outbreak of cholera on board the steamer *Rajmehal*, but this was among the coolies shipped from Dhubri."

The percentage of total deaths on the passage among those embarked in steamers at Goalundo was only 0·09, and the percentage of desertions was 0·24.

The subjoined figures afford the means of comparing the following results of the last four years—

	1877-78.	1878-79.	1879-80.	1880-81.
Total number of trips ...	63	75	71	66
Ditto without cholera	35	35	58	66
Ditto souls conveyed	17,366	16,495	6,333	3,294
Percentage of total deaths ...	2·96	3·78	1·05	0·09
	Days. Hours.	Days. Hours.	Days. Hours.	Days. Hours.
Average length of passage ...	18 17	15 20	15 14	15 9
Ditto number carried each trip ...	275	219	89	49

The mortality columns of the annexed statement, for recording the deaths that occurred on board the several steamers during their trips with coolies to Assam, are nearly all blank. It is hoped that they may long continue so.

No. of trips.	Name of Vessel.	Name of Commander.	Number of coolies conveyed.	Mortality on the passage.		
				Cholera.	Other causes.	Total percentage.
6	Tezpore	Mr. Reaks	280	.....	.....	.....
6	Sudya	" Baker	235	.....	.....	.....
5	Agra	" Sharling	210	.....	.....	.....
4	Rajmehal	" Kerver	206	.....	.....	.....
4	Mirzapore	" Haney	186	.....	.....	.....
4	Lahore	" Hockley	141	.....	.....	.....
4	Simla	" Spracklin	138	.....	.....	.....
3	Dibrugarh	" Walters	129	.....	.....	.....
2	Dhubri	" Rose	55	.....	.....	.....
3	Nepaul	" Bull	134	.....	.....	.....
2	Burmah	" Lemon	94	.....	.....	.....
5	Cashmere	" Stevenson	265	.....	.....	.....
5	Scinde	" Watson	322	.....	.....	.....
7	Mysore	" Elder	551	.....	1	0·18
6	Indore	" Fox	348	.....	2	0·57
		Total ...	3,294	.....	3	0·09

Length of passage.

The annexed statement shows the average length of passage for each steamer belonging to the—

River Steam Navigation Company.

Steamers.	Number of days.
Nepaul	19¼
Burmah	15
Cashmere	13¾
Scinde	12½
Mysore	15½
Indore	13¼

India General Steam Navigation Company.

Steamers.	Number of days.
Tezpore	16½
Sudya	16¼
Agra	16¼
Rajmehal	17
Mirzapore	15½
Lahore	17½
Simla	13¾
Dibrugarh	14½
Dhubri	15½

The steamers of the River Steam Navigation Company, excepting the *Nepaul*, have continued on the whole to perform the passage in a little less time than those of the India General Steam Navigation Company.

Percentage of deaths in relation to age and sex.

If the total number of emigrants conveyed in steamers from Goalundo to Assam be grouped into men, women, children, and infants, the percentage of deaths for each group is found to bear favourable comparison with the corresponding results of the previous year, as follows:—

	1879-80.	1880-81.
For men	0·97	0·11
" women	1·50	0·0
" children	1·52	0·26
" infants	1·21	0·0

Water-supply on board steamers.

As evidenced by the remarks of inspecting officers on the way-bills, the water-supply arrangements on board the steamers have worked satisfactorily during the past year.

FOR CACHAR AND SYLHET.

Particulars regarding those who embarked at Goalundo in country boats for Cachar and Sylhet respectively are given separately in the following statements.

As in the previous year, no coolies under class C embarked at Goalundo either for Cachar or Sylhet.

Class.	Number embarked for Cachar.									
	Emigrants.			Dependents.						
	Male.	Female.	Total.	Male.	Female.	Boys.	Girls.	Infants.	Total.	Grand total.
A	452	270	722	14	14	89	88	42	247	969
B	303	232	535	14	32	112	103	69	330	865
C					None *viâ* Goalundo.					
Total ...	755	502	1,257	28	46	201	191	111	577	1,834

The number transmitted for Cachar *viâ* Goalundo has continued to diminish, for the total number embarked in 1879-80 was 2,999 individuals as against 1,834 in 1880-81.

Casualties.

The casualties during the passage in country boats to Cachar were—

Desertions	... ...	14 or 0·76 per cent.
Deaths	... ...	51 or 2·78 ,,
	of which ...	34 or 1·85 ,,

were due to cholera.

Besides the above, however, 36 are reported to have been landed *en route* on account of sickness, but of these the returns do not show how many were merely accompanying relations in good health.

From the following statement it will be seen that during the past year 432 individuals embarked at Goalundo for Sylhet. This number also falls short by about 100 of the number embarked for Sylhet in 1879-80:—

Class.	Number embarked for Sylhet.									
	Emigrants.			Dependents.						
	Male.	Female.	Total.	Male.	Female.	Boys.	Girls.	Infants.	Total.	Grand total.
A	110	74	184	.....	1	10	5	2	18	202
B	74	68	142	6	19	31	22	10	88	230
C					None *viâ* Goalundo.					
Total ...	184	142	326	6	20	41	27	12	106	432

Casualties.

The casualties during the passage to Sylhet were—

Desertions	... ...	4 or 0·92 per cent.
Deaths	... ...	3 or 0·69 ,,

There was no cholera, and if the percentage of total deaths reported as having occurred among the Cachar and Sylhet coolies, taken collectively, be compared with that of the year 1879-80, there is a slight difference in favour of the year 1880-81; for the percentage of total deaths reported is 2·7 for 1879-80, and about 2·3 per cent. for 1880-81.

"It is a matter of regret," observes Dr. Prockter, "that although much care is taken in embarking the Cachar and Sylhet coolies in country boats, and arrangements are made to prevent them from drinking impure water," the death-rate is not reduced. He adds—"The probable reason is that the boats take a longer time to arrive at their destination," and that during this longer passage there is no means of ensuring efficient sanitary supervision and care. Doubtless these reasons account for a great part of the evil.

Under the circumstances, it is more than probable that the most carefully explained instructions to those in charge (sirdars or native doctors) are, even if understood, neither appreciated nor intelligently carried out; and cholera, for example, may be imported at any halting place on the passage, and when once introduced is likely to continue with the batch for the greater part of the journey.

Coolies under Class C.—As already observed, none of this class were embarked at Goalundo; for even those registered for Cachar and Sylhet avoided Goalundo, taking some other route.

The following statement gives some particulars regarding them, which have been gathered from the returns furnished by the Magistrates of the labour districts for which the coolies were registered.

Aggregate number registered during the year 1880-81.	System of recruiting	How forwarded to labour districts.		Number registered in the recruiting districts.	Particulars of the journey to the labour districts. To Cachar. Casualties. Left behind. Number.	Left behind. Percentage.	Deserted. Number.	Deserted. Percentage.	Died. Number.	Died. Percentage.	Landed *en route*. Number.	Landed *en route*. Percentage.	Total.	Percentage.	Number landed at destination.	To Sylhet. Casualties. Left behind. Number.	Left behind. Percentage.	Deserted. Number.	Deserted. Percentage.	Died. Number.	Died. Percentage.	Landed *en route*. Number.	Landed *en route*. Percentage.	Total.	Percentage.	Number landed at destination.	Grand total of casualties. Number.	Grand total of casualties. Percentage.	Grand total of number landed.
923	Class C emigrants recruited by garden sirdars.	Independently of contractors' depôts...	For Cachar	540	3	·55	2	·37	4	·74	4	·74	13	2·40	527	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	13	2·40	527
			„ Sylhet	383	...	.....	.....	...	...	.....	...	...	...	...	...	1	·26	...	...	3	·78	...	...	4	1·04	379	4	1·05	379
			Total ...	923	3	·32	2	·21	4	·43	4	·43	13	1·40	527	1	·10	...	...	3	·32	...	...	4	·43	379	1	1·84	906

The number of class C coolies registered for Cachar and Sylhet collectively is again less than that of the previous year; for in 1879-80 the total number *landed* at their destinations in those districts was 998, whereas in 1880-81 the total number *registered* for those districts was only 923, and the number *landed* only 906. The percentage of total casualties, however, bears favourable comparison with that of the year 1879-80, as it amounted to nearly 5 per cent. for that year, but is only 1·8 per cent. for the year 1880-81.

SUMMARY.

The following general summary of the total number of emigrants and their dependents registered during the year 1880-81 for transmission *viâ* Calcutta, Goalundo, and other routes, shows briefly how they were disposed of by the close of that year:—

Class.	Number registered.	Born on the journey.	Balance of previous year.	Total.	Total deductions on account of all causes.	Percentage.	Routes by which forwarded.	Total number landed at destination.		Balance in depôt at the close of the year.
Originally transmitted through Calcutta depôts. A ...	4,000	...	231	5,131	928	...	Goalundo ...	2,964	Assam ...	238
								700	Cachar ...	
								160	Sylhet ...	
							Calcutta ...	57	Chittagong ...	
							Dhubri ...	84	Assam ...	
Originally transmitted through Calcutta depôts. B ...	1,039	...	240	1,279	231	...	Goalundo ...	319	Assam ...	40
								490	Cachar ...	
								67	Sylhet ...	
							Dhubri ...	132	Assam ...	
Originally transmitted through Goalundo depôts. A ...	268	...	8	276	22	...	Goalundo ...	216	Cachar ...	.....
								38	Sylhet ...	
Originally transmitted through Goalundo depôts. B ...	504	...	29	533	40	...		327	Cachar ...	6
								160	Sylhet ...	
Proceeding independently of depôts. C ...	923	...	.....	923	17	...	Kooshtea ... or Other routes ..	527	Cachar ...	.....
								379	Sylhet ...	
Total ...	7,634	...	508	8,142	1,238	...	.....	6,620	.....	284

As compared with the results of the previous year, not only has emigration been on the whole still less active than it was even during that year, but a *relatively* smaller number passed through the Calcutta and Goalundo depôts, while a relatively larger number passed through Dhubri, though the total number that took the Dhubri route was actually smaller than that of the previous year, and indeed of any year since 1876-77.

So far as reliable information has been obtainable on this point, the total percentage of losses from *all* causes among the three classes A, B, and C, was as follows:—

Percentage of	1879-80.			1880-81.		
	Class A.	Class B.	Class C.	Class A.	Class B.	Class C.
Detentions in the recruiting districts	1·40	0·99	0·45	0·95	8·56	0·43
Discharges	4·85	4·85	.....	3·69	3·07	.....
Desertions	6·14	5·18	1·66	7·22	0·86	0·21
Deaths	1·57	3·07	2·87	0·48	2·59	0·75
Rejections	0·11	4·12	.....	·6 30	4·90	.....

As before remarked, the most satisfactory feature in the above results is the comparatively low death-rate for all classes, chiefly due to the remarkable immunity from cholera, for which the past year is conspicuous.

SECTION IV.

DHUBRI.

Mr. Campbell, the Superintendent of Emigration at Dhubri, having submitted his annual report on emigration, it remains for me here merely to review briefly the results of emigration through Dhubri during the past official year. It has already been shown that, as compared with Goalundo, there is a growing

preference for Dhubri as a place of embarkation for coolies proceeding to Assam, and this is evidenced by the fact that during the past year upwards of 68 per cent. of the total number imported into Assam under the Act travelled *viâ* Dhubri.

The following comparative statement gives particulars in connection with he transit of coolies through that place during the last two years:—

	1879-80.		1880-81.		1879-80.		1880-81	
	EMBARKED				MARCHED UP			
	Number	Percentage.	Number.	Percentage.	Number	Percentage	Number	Percentage
Originally registered	6,695		6,991		1,441		392	.. ..
Casualties { Detained .	78	1 16	47	0 67	4	0 27	...	... .
Casualties { Deserted .	109	1 62	65	0 92	3	0 20	. ..	..
Casualties { Died .	105	1 58	13	0 18	5	0 34	.....	.
Total casualties .	292	4 37	125	1 78	12	0 83	. ..	
Born on the journey .	3	.	2	.			...	
Arrived at Dhubri	6,406		6,866	. . .	1,429	. ..	392	
Balance of previous year	33	.	..	...	1	.. .	.....	..
Forwarded from Calcutta .	172	.	216	.. .	. ....	... ..	.....	..
Casualties ... { Deserted	. .	.	.		. ..	...	..	
Casualties ... { Died	.	.		. ..	.. .		. ..	...
Total	...	... ..		.. ..	... ..	...	... ..	. ..
Arrived at Dhubri	172	.	216	... ..	1,430	.....	... .	... .
Total accommodated	6,641	. . ..	7,084		1,430	..	392	..
Casualties ... ... { Deserted . .	...		1	0 01	2	0 13	... .	... .
Casualties ... ... { Died ..	27	0 41	2	0 02	9	0 62	... .	..
Casualties ... ... { Detained	6	0 09	18	0 25	... ..	. ....	.. ..	
Total	33	0 51	21	0 29	11	0 76	. ..	
Born at Dhubri		....	2	... ..	.. .	... ..	... ..	..
Number despatched .	6,578	..	6,974	.	1,419	...	392	
Casualties ... { Deserted ..			.	.	.		.	.
Casualties ... { Died . .	39	0 59	20	0 29	3	0 21	4	1 02
Total	39	0 59	2	0 28		0 21	4	1 02
Born on the passage ...	2	0 02						
Total number arrived at destination	6,541	98 94	6,954	99 71	1,416	99 02	388	98 97

The chief results may be summarised in the following manner:—

	1880-81.	1879-80
First, as to emigrants embarked at Dhubri—		
Registered originally for Dhubri	6,991	6,695
Arrived from Calcutta	216	172
Born on journey to Assam	4	5
Balance of previous year	...	33
Total ...	7,211	6,905
Total casualties *en route*	166	364
Balance at the close of the year	91	..
Arrived at destination	6,954	6,541
Next as to emigrants marched up from Dhubri—		
Registered originally for Dhubri	392	1,441
Arrived from Calcutta	...	...
Born on journey to Assam	...	...
Balance of previous year	..	1
Total ...	392	1,442
Total casualties	4	26
Arrived at destination	388	1,416
Grand Total ...	7,312	7,957

Free labourers

Of free labourers it appears that 780 embarked, and 26 marched up, making a total of 806 individuals who, travelling independently of the provisions of the Act, selected the Dhubri route for Assam.

It appears that only 392 coolies under the Act marched up from Dhubri to Upper Assam, so that the number that took the land route was still smaller than it was during the previous year, and employers of labour have continued to prefer shipping their coolies. "This," Mr. Campbell observes, "may be traced chiefly to the reduction of steamer rates to intermediate stations. The uniform tariff of Rs. 12 per head for each emigrant for all stations formerly insisted on was of a prohibitive nature."

Mr. Campbell states that, since the date of his last report, the Government of Bengal has caused the construction of a tramway over the portion of road between the Teesta and Dharla rivers, and that there is now no difficulty whatever in coolies travelling along with the mails and reaching Dhubri in 27 hours after leaving Calcutta, and in somewhat less time from Kanchrapara, to which place they cross over from the East Indian Railway. The route chiefly followed by the coolies is shown by Mr. Campbell to have been, as it was during the previous year, that by Mugra and Kanchrapara, the old Rajmehal route, as before observed, having been practically abandoned.

Dhubri depôts.

The depôts, four in number, established at Dhubri for the accommodation of coolies are reported to have been looked after carefully, and kept scrupulously clean. There was scarcely any sickness, and the Government depôt, intended only as a reserve, was not much used during the year.

Water-supply.

The well which was commenced last year is reported to have been finished during the year under report, and to be very largely used not only by the emigrants, but by those inhabitants of the station who live near it.

In conclusion, looking to the work of the year done, I may be allowed to observe that the general results have been satisfactory, and that the end of the several measures introduced by Government and the Assam Administration have been so far successfully attained.

SECTION V.

DEPARTMENTAL.

Medical Inspector of Emigrants, Calcutta.

Dr. R. C. Chandra has continued to officiate as Medical Inspector of Emigrants at Calcutta throughout the year.

Emigration office.

The lease of the premises No. 9, Short Street, having expired at the end of June 1880, the office was removed under the sanction of Government on the 1st July 1880 to No. 14, Russell Street. The correspondence in connection with inland emigration has slightly decreased, but only, as will be seen, in respect of the number of letters received—

			1879-80.	1880-81.
Number of letters received	...	...	10,266	9,723
Ditto ditto despatched	...	...	3,853	3,860
Total		...	14,119	13,583

Mr. E. R. Forbes, Personal Assistant, has continued assiduously at his duties since his return on the 10th of April 1880 from privilege leave.

Establishment.

Except that Mr. J. Reuther, the Depôt Inspector, availed himself of a year's leave without pay on the 1st January 1881, the nominal roll of the establishment has not changed, and its members have been regular in their attendance.

Embarkation Agent and Medical Inspect r of Emigrants at Goalundo

At Goalundo Dr. V. Richards continued to hold office as Medical Inspector of Emigrants and Superintendent of Emigration till the 16th of August 1880, when he availed himself of the leave granted him, and made over charge of his duties to Dr. A. E. Prockter, who has officiated for him from that date beyond the year under review.

APPENDIX.

I. Statement of coolies recruited by contractors.
II. Statement of coolies recruited by garden sirdar recruiters.
III Nominal list of Dhubri steamers that had mortality on board.

The accompanying Statements I, II and III, marginally noted, form the appendix to this report. Statement C, compiled from information furnished by Mr. Campbell, gives the percentage of mortality among Dhubri coolies on the passage to Assam.

No. I.—*Statement showing the number of Emigrants recruited by Contractors and embarked at Goalundo under Act VII (B.C.) of 1878 for the Districts of Assam, Cachar, and Sylhet, during the year 1880-81.*

ASSAM.

MONTHS.	NUMBER OF EMIGRANTS EMBARKED.										Mode of transit.	Absconded.	PARTICULARS OF PASSAGE.					
	Emigrants.			Dependents.									Mortality.					
													Cholera.		Other causes.		Total.	
	Men.	Women.	Total.	Men.	Women.	Boys.	Girls.	Infants.	Total.	Percentage of females to males.			Number.	Percentage.	Number.	Percentage.	Number.	Percentage.
1880.																		
April	121	88	209	.....	2	26	16	16	209	72·72	By steamer.	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
May	140	71	211	1	2	17	19	8	258	50·71		1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
June	84	54	138	.....	5	11	8	5	162	64·28		.....	.....	.....	1	0·61	1	0·61
July	132	73	205	1	.....	5	7	6	224	55·30		.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
August	91	44	135	.....	2	7	7	3	154	48·35		.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
September	113	84	197	.....	2	13	5	3	220	74·33		.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
October	120	54	174	.....	1	10	14	6	205	45·00		.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
November	127	62	189	1	2	10	16	7	225	48·81		3	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
December	85	44	129	.....	1	10	.....	2	142	51·76		.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
1881.																		
January	170	93	263	1	4	17	7	11	303	54·70		1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
February	176	100	276	2	3	22	13	15	331	56·81		3	.....	.....	2	0·60	2	0·60
March	289	120	409	.....	6	24	25	18	482	41·52		.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Total ...	1,648	887	2,535	6	30	172	132	100	2,975	53·83		8	.....	.....	3	0·10	3	0·10

CACHAR.

MONTHS.	Men.	Women.	Total.	Men.	Women.	Boys.	Girls.	Infants.	Total.	Percentage of females to males.	Mode of transit.	Absconded.	Number.	Percentage.	Number.	Percentage.	Number.	Percentage.
1880.																		
April	36	20	56	.....	.....	9	7	2	74	55·5	By country boats.	2	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
May	6	10	16	.....	.....	1	.....	1	18	60·00		.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
June	62	35	97	2	2	11	4	5	121	56·45		1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
July	31	20	51	1	1	4	6	2	65	64·51		.....	.....	.....	2	3·17	2	3·07
August	11	4	15	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	16	36·36		.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
September	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....		.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
October	27	14	41	.....	.....	6	5	2	54	51·85		.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
November	28	9	37	.....	1	1	.....	3	42	32·14		.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
December	33	17	50	.....	.....	1	2	1	54	51·51		.....	1	1·85	.....	.....	1	1·85
1881.																		
January	36	17	53	.....	.....	3	6	5	67	47·22		.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
February	59	41	100	4	2	19	26	8	153	69·49		1	2	1·30	.....	.....	2	1·30
March	27	23	50	2	4	12	12	5	85	85·18		4	9	10·58	.....	.....	9	10·58
Total ...	356	210	566	9	10	67	62	35	749	58·98		8	12	1·55	2	0·25	14	1·80

SYLHET.

MONTHS.	Men.	Women.	Total.	Men.	Women.	Boys.	Girls.	Infants.	Total.	Percentage of females to males.	Mode of transit.	Absconded.	Number.	Percentage.	Number.	Percentage.	Number.	Percentage.
1880.																		
April	23	10	33	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	34	43·47	By country boats.	2	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
May	27	14	41	.....	.....	1	.....	1	43	51·85		.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
June	22	17	39	.....	.....	.....	2	.....	41	77·27		.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
July	19	15	34	.....	1	7	1	.....	43	78·94		.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
August..	.....	1	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	.....		.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
September	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....		.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
October	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....		.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
November	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....		.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
December	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....		.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
1881.																		
January	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....		.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
February	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....		.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
March	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....		.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Total ...	91	57	148	.....	1	8	4	1	162	62·63		2	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....

ABSTRACT.

DISTRICTS.	NUMBER OF EMIGRANTS EMBARKED.										Mode of transit.	Absconded.	PARTICULARS OF PASSAGE.					
	Emigrants.			Dependents.									Mortality.					
													Cholera.		Other causes.		Total.	
	Men.	Women.	Total.	Men.	Women.	Boys.	Girls.	Infants.	Total.	Percentage of females to males.			Number.	Percentage.	Number.	Percentage.	Number.	Percentage.
Assam	1,648	887	2,535	6	30	172	132	100	2,975	53·83	By steamers and country boats.	8	...	...	3	0·10	3	0·10
Cachar	356	210	566	9	10	67	62	35	749	58·97		8	12	1·60	2	0·26	14	1·86
Sylhet	91	57	148	.....	1	8	4	1	162	62·63		2	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Total .	2,095	1,154	3,249	15	41	247	198	136	3,886	55·08		18	12	0·30	5	0·12	17	0·43

No. II.—*Statement showing the number of Emigrants recruited by Garden Sirdars and embarked at Goalundo under Act VII (B.C.) of 1878 for the Districts of Assam, Cachar, and Sylhet during the year 1880-81.*

ASSAM.

Months.	Number of Emigrants Embarked. Emigrants. Men.	Women.	Total.	Dependents. Men.	Women.	Boys.	Girls.	Infants.	Total.	Percentage of females to males.	Mode of transit.	Absconded.	Particulars of Journey. Mortality. Cholera. Number.	Cholera. Percentage.	Other causes. Number.	Other causes. Percentage.	Total. Number.	Total. Percentage.
1880.																		
April	49	28	77	1	2	18	8	7	113	57·42	By steamer.	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
May	13	10	23	.....	2	7	3	.....	35	76·92		.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
June	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....		.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
July	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....		.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
August	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....		.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
September	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....		.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
October	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....		.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
November	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....		.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
December	12	1	13	1	.....	.....	.....	1	15	8·33		.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
1881.																		
January	1	1	2	.....	.....	2	.....	.....	4	..		.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
February	27	13	40	.....	3	8	4	7	62	48·14		.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
March	37	25	62	1	3	14	4	6	90	57·56		.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Total ...	139	78	217	3	10	49	19	21	319	56·11		.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....

CACHAR.

Months.	Emigrants. Men.	Women.	Total.	Dependents. Men.	Women.	Boys.	Girls.	Infants.	Total.	Percentage.	Mode of transit.	Absconded.	Cholera. Number.	Cholera. Percentage.	Other causes. Number.	Other causes. Percentage.	Total. Number.	Total. Percentage.
1880.																		
April	44	41	85	3	5	19	16	20	148	93·18	By country boats.	.....	14	9·46	2	1·35	16	10·81
May	10	10	20	.....	2	4	4	3	33	.....		.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
June	6	6	12	1	.....	2	.....	2	17			.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
July	5	6	11	.....	.....	3	3	4	21	1·20		.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
August	.....	2	2	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	2	.....		.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
September	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....		.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
October	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....		.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
November	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....		.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
December	5	5	10	.....	.....	1	2	2	15	.....		.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
1881.																		
January	15	19	34	1	1	7	19	5	58	126·66		.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
February	29	19	48	1	4	8	16	7	84	65·51		.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
March	56	34	90	2	4	22	19	8	145	60·71		.....	8	5·61	.....	.....	8	5·67
Total ...	170	142	312	8	16	66	70	51	323	83·52		.....	22	4·20	2	0·38	24	4·58

SYLHET.

Months.	Emigrants. Men.	Women.	Total.	Dependents. Men.	Women.	Boys.	Girls.	Infants.	Total.	Percentage.	Mode of transit.	Absconded.	Cholera. Number.	Cholera. Percentage.	Other causes. Number.	Other causes. Percentage.	Total. Number.	Total. Percentage.
1880.																		
April	4	3	7	.....	3	2	3	1	16	75·00	By country boats.	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
May	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....		.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
June	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....		.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
July	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....		.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
August	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....		.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
September	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....		.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
October	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....		.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
November	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....		.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
December	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....		.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
1881.																		
January	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....		.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
February	11	7	18	.....	.....	2	5	1	26	63·63		.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
March	9	10	19	1	2	2	1	.....	25	111·11		.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Total ...	24	20	44	1	5	6	9	2	67	83·33		.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....

ABSTRACT.

Districts.	Number of Emigrants Embarked. Emigrants. Men.	Women.	Total.	Dependents. Men.	Women.	Boys.	Girls.	Infants.	Total.	Percentage.	Mode of transit.	Absconded.	Particulars of Passage. Mortality. Cholera. Number.	Cholera. Percentage.	Other causes. Number.	Other causes. Percentage.	Total. Number.	Total. Percentage.
Assam ...	139	78	217	3	10	49	19	21	319	56·11	By steamer and country boats.	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Cachar ...	170	142	312	8	16	66	70	51	323	83·52		.....	22	4·20	2	0·38	24	4·58
Sylhet ...	24	20	44	1	5	6	9	2	67	83·33		.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Total ...	333	240	573	12	31	121	98	74	909	72·07		.....	22	2·42	2	0·22	24	2·64

No. III.—*Nominal list of those Steamers only that had Mortality on the passage to Assam among Coolies embarked at Dhubri during the year* 1880-81.

Date of shipment.	Name of steamer.	Total number shipped.	DEATHS ON THE PASSAGE.					
			CHOLERA.		OTHER CAUSES.		TOTAL.	
			Number.	Percentage.	Number.	Percentage.	Number.	Percentage.
1st April 1880 ...	"Punjaub"	48	2	4·16	1	2·08	3	6·25
2nd " " ...	"Rajmehal"	178	8	4·49	.....	...	8	4·49
18th " " ...	"Indore"	76	1	1·31	1	1·31	2	2·63
22nd " " ...	"Dibrugarh"	162	1	0·61	.....	.	1	0·61
11th Feb. 1881 ...	"Simla"	257	.....	.....	1	0·38	1	0·38
16th Mar. " ...	"Scindo"	444	.....	.....	3	0·67	3	0·67
31st " " ...	"Tezpore"	254	.....	.....	2	0·78	2	0·78

J. GRANT, M.D.,
Superintendent of Emigration.

C. E. G. & J. E. S.—Reg. No. 6931J—230—12-10-81.

GENERAL DEPARTMENT.

INLAND EMIGRATION.

CALCUTTA, THE 14TH NOVEMBER 1881.

RESOLUTION.

READ—

The Annual Report on Inland Emigration for the year 1880-81.

The report which is submitted by Dr. Grant who was Superintendent of Emigration throughout the year has again not reached Government till considerably after the due date. The report gives a full and interesting account of Inland emigration throughout the year. The first portion of it deals as usual with the administrative changes effected or discussed during the period under review, while the remainder consists of an analysis of the work done by the department. The object of all the changes which have, for some time past, been made has been to facilitate, as far as possible, emigration to the tea districts by reducing the difficulties and consequent expense of conveying labourers from their homes. This it has been sought to effect by shortening the journey to Assam, and by freeing both parties to the contract from all restrictions not absolutely needed in the interest of the labourer himself or of the general public. In order to lessen the cost of the labourer to the planter, the rule regarding the space to be allotted on board inland steamers to each emigrant was modified during the year in consideration of a reduction in the fares charged by the Steamer Companies and of a promise by the India General Steam Navigation Company to perform the journey from Dhubri to Tezpore and Dibrugurh in the quickest time possible under the circumstances. A further concession was at the same time made to the Steamer Companies whereby steamers are now enabled to carry the full legal complement of 200 emigrants without providing a medical officer. These changes, which were introduced with the concurrence of the Chief Commissioner of Assam, have worked very satisfactorily as have also the new rules, permitting on the one hand lads of 16 years of age to enter into contracts, and on the other hand restricting the powers of agents to transfer labourers from one garden to another. Shortly before the close of the year certain alterations were also made in the rules regarding the fittings and licensing of emigrant vessels and the supply of medical comforts and attendance—the working of which will be more fully noticed next year. Finally, in order to render the journey shorter, further improvements have been made in the route between Kaunia and Dhubri; while the route *viâ* Rajmahal which had ceased to be used by labourers was finally closed and the sheds were dismantled.

2. The principal matter affecting emigration during the year has, however, been the proposed amendment of the Labour Transport Act of 1873. The insufficient encouragement given by that Act to free emigration, the restrictions which it imposes upon recruiting by sirdars or headmen, the absence from it of provision for the enforcement of contracts with labourers other than those entered into under its terms, and the inadequate protection afforded by it to the planter against misconduct on the part of his labourers, have for some time been urged upon Government as matters in respect of which a change in the law was required. A Committee was accordingly appointed to "examine into the working of the Act and to suggest any relaxations and amendments of the law which it might seem safe and advisable to adopt." Most of the essential recommendations of that Committee have been embodied by the Government of India in the Bill which has recently been published in the Gazette and is now before the Legislative Council. Except on one or two points, the Bill has the entire approval of the Government of Bengal; and the Lieutenant-Governor hopes that the few suggestions which he has made to the Government of India in favour of a somewhat closer adherence to the proposals of the Committee on those points may yet be accepted. Whatever may be the

decision arrived at by the Supreme Government on this subject, Sir Ashley Eden has no doubt that the Bill when passed will effect a vast and much needed improvement in the present law, and that under its provisions immigration into the tea districts will be conducted with less friction, difficulty, expense and delay than has hitherto been possible.

3. The Superintendent reported last year that the number of contractors holding licenses at the close of that year was ten. This does not tally exactly with the present report, which shows eleven contractors throughout the year—a discrepancy which is probably due to a contractor having resumed an agency which he was supposed to have permanently resigned. No fresh licenses were granted during the year. More than half the existing contractors are still general contractors who supply any garden which may require labour; but a large decrease in the number of these agents has taken place in recent years owing, the Superintendent believes, partly to the reduced demand for their services and partly to his having discouraged applications for general licenses. It is, as Dr. Grant states, obviously desirable that contractors should be few, and should be responsible agents.

4. The number of licenses issued to recruiters fell from 618 in 1879-80 to 506 in the year under review, owing no doubt to the diminished demand for labour. It is gratifying to observe that ten licenses only were cancelled for misconduct.

5. An increase from 2,207 to 2,635 is apparent in the number of certificates granted by employers to garden sirdars. Of these, 214 against 1,897 in the previous year were authorized to collect C class labourers only, *i.e.*, their operations were restricted to the recruitment of batches not exceeding 20 in number. Four certificates granted to sirdars of this class were cancelled. No case of misconduct among sirdars collecting larger numbers came to notice.

6. The following statement shows the extent of the falling off which has taken place in the number of emigrants recruited during the last three years exclusive of coolies registered for Dhubri only :—

	1878-79.	1879-80	1880-81.
Class A (Contractors' recruits)	13,795	7,601	5,168
„ B (recruited by sirdars, and passed through depôt)	11,917	4,625	1,543
„ C (recruited by sirdars in batches of under twenty)	2,439	1,324	923
Total ...	28,151	13,550	7,634

Of the total number despatched during the year under review 5,939 went through Calcutta depôts, 772 through Goalundo depôts, and the remainder were embarked at Kooshtea or Goalundo without passing through depôts. The causes assigned for the diminution last year have been at work throughout the period under review. The fall in the price of tea in 1879-80 led no doubt to reductions in garden establishments; but the main reason for the falling off has been the prevalence of good harvests for the last three years and the consequent unwillingness to emigrate among the inhabitants of the districts in which recruitment was formerly most successful.

7. The change which has taken place within the last four years in the proportion of the total labour supply drawn from different localities is very remarkable. The following table illustrates this change :—

	1877-78.	1878-79.	1879-80.	1880-81.
Chota Nagpore	48·58	65·35	44·47	29·62
Sonthal Pergunnahs	3 87	3·18	2·94	1·78
Bengal Proper	23·08	14·66	19·75	43 81
Behar	24 86	15 56	14 41	22·98
Orissa	0·15	0 02	0·08	1·78
North-Western Provinces	0·86	0 89	0·06	.....

The results for the present year fully bear out the conclusions expressed last year that Chota Nagpore is almost exhausted as a recruiting ground;

and that managers of gardens must for the future look to up-country labour to supply their requirements. In respect, however, to the proportion of labour recruited in Bengal and Behar respectively the above statement is somewhat misleading. The whole of the emigrants recruited in Bengal were enlisted in the districts of the Presidency and Burdwan Divisions and nearly half of them in the Burdwan district alone. The remainder were engaged chiefly in Calcutta and its neighbourhood. It is known that there is scarcely any emigration among the inhabitants of these divisions, and that nearly the whole of the emigrants registered in them are men who have come down from Behar and the North-Western Provinces in search of employment. If these emigrants were shown according to their place of residence, and not according to that of recruitment, there is reason to believe that the respective results now shown for Bengal and Behar would be reversed. Dr. Grant submits a table and map illustrative of the extent to which in his opinion the chief recruiting grounds supply emigrant labour to the colonies and to the tea districts respectively. But as neither the map nor table shows any emigration to the tea districts from the North-Western Provinces or Oudh, it is manifest that the same error vitiates the figures that has been noticed in regard to the percentage against Bengal Proper in the table reproduced above.

8. Regarding the route followed by emigrants to the tea districts the most remarkable points are the abandonment of the old Rajmahal route, and the increasing popularity of the journey by Dhubri as compared with that by Goalundo and Kheostea. The number of labourers for Assam embarking at Goalundo was 3,294 or about half of that for the previous year; while it was exceeded by the embarkations at Dhubri, which numbered 7,366. Altogether 5,939 labourers were registered for transmission through Calcutta depôts, of whom 5,683 arrived in Calcutta, the reduction having been effected by 134 detentions and 122 casualties. The apparently large number of detentions is explained by the fact that one batch of 79 emigrants under class B who were registered just at the close of the year were not despatched until the commencememt of the present year and have therefore been shown as detained. The casualties before arrival in depôt amounted to 2·02 per cent. on the whole number of labourers registered and consisted of ten discharges and 54 desertions from mofussil depôts and of 48 desertions and one death on the way to Calcutta. Nineteen labourers also are stated to have been left behind. The absence of mortality is gratifying and the small percentage of desertions may reasonably be regarded as an indication of good treatment of the labourers by recruiters and sirdars.

9. From a table given by the Superintendent it appears that of the 6,001 persons accommodated in the Calcutta depôts during the year, including a balance of 308 remaining undisposed of from the previous year, 360 persons were rejected (of whom 325 were emigrants and 35 dependants), 196 were discharged, 225 deserted, 8 died, and 215 remained in depôt at the close of the year. The manner in which the remainder were forwarded to their destinations has already been shown. The percentage of persons rejected to those brought to depôt was 6·30 among recruiter's and 4·61 among B class labourers. As is generally the case, least care would seem to be exercised by the servants of those contractors whose business is most extensive and the percentage of rejections was largest in the largest agencies. Discharges from depôt amounted to 3·38 per cent. on the A class to 2·71 on the B class. Desertions were confined to recruiter's men among whom they amounted to 4·59 per cent. Of the deaths 7 took place among A class labourers but in no depôt did the mortality rise above 0·24 per cent. This most satisfactory result is due to the complete absence of cholera from the depôts throughout the year. The year as pointed out by Dr. Grant was a favourable one throughout Bengal in respect of this disease; at the same time the absolute immunity of the depôts from it, when considered in connection with the trifling mortality from other causes, indicates the greater care bestowed upon the sanitary condition of the depôts by the Medical Inspector and the greater attention given to the subject by the contractors themselves. The Lieutenant-Governor trusts that, now that so favourable a result has been attained, every effort will be made to maintain the improvement which has been effected. The percentage of rejections is, except in the case of B class emigrants, somewhat lower than has been the case in previous years owing, it is believed, to the

greater strictness now observed in mofussil inspections. It is gratifying that no further complaints have reached the Lieutenant-Governor as to the superficial character of the examination at the depôt which formed the subject of correspondence last year. Finally, the results of the year's work in the Goalundo depôts are very satisfactory, the percentage of deaths being only ·12; while out of 5,674 emigrants passing through these depôts the total casualties—from deaths, desertions, releases and rejections—were only 45 or ·80 per cent. There were no casualties among the 55 emigrants shipped to Chittagong.

10. The almost entire absence of cholera, and the entire absence of mortality from this cause, are the most gratifying features in connection with the conveyance of labourers to Assam on board the river steamers. A slight outbreak occurred in April 1880 among a batch of emigrants shipped on board the *Rajmahal* from Dhubri, but no case was fatal. Throughout the year three deaths only occurred on board steamers, the average mortality being 0·09 per cent. on the whole number embarked against 1·05 per cent. in 1879-80 and 2·78 in the previous year. In all 66 trips were made by 15 steamers—the average duration of each trip from Goalundo to Dibrugurh (15 days and 9 hours) showing a slight improvement as compared with previous years. In this respect the timing of the steamers of the River Steam Navigation Company is somewhat better than that of the India General Steam Navigation Company. The Lieutenant-Governor understands that the question of a light line of despatch steamers on the Brahmaputra is again under consideration, and he trusts that it may before long be found possible to supply that greatest want of the Assam tea districts—a quick and certain steamer service.

11. Emigration to the tea districts of the Surma valley from Goalundo was confined to A and B class. The total number of emigrants embarked for Cachar by this route was 1,257 and of dependents 577—and shows a falling off of 1,165 persons as compared with the previous year. The casualties during the journey amounted to 14 desertions and 51 deaths, of which no less than 34 were from cholera. Embarkations to Sylhet were 432 only, of whom about one-fourth were dependents. Four desertions and three deaths occurred. There was no case of cholera on board the Sylhet country boats. The only possible system of transport to these districts at present is by country boat; and with such a system complete prevention of cholera is not always practicable. In the interests of tea in the Surma valley and of the emigrants themselves it is earnestly to be hoped that the connection of Sylhet with the railway system of Bengal may not be far distant. The results of the conveyance of C class labourers to these districts would seem from the returns given by the Superintendent to be favourable.

12. The following summary of the transport arrangements for the whole year is reproduced from the report:—

Class.		Number registered.	Born on the journey.	Balance of previous year.	Total.	Total deductions on account of all causes	Percentage.	Routes by which forwarded.	Total number landed at destination		Balance in depôt at the close of the year
Originally transmitted through Calcutta depôts ...	A	4,900		231	5,131	928		Goalundo	2,964 700 160	Assam Cachar Sylhet	238
								Calcutta	57	Chittagong	
								Dhubri	84	Assam	
	B	1,039		240	1,279	231		Goalundo	319 490 67	Assam Cachar Sylhet	40
								Dhubri	132	Assam ..	
Originally transmitted through Goalundo depôts	A ...	268		8	276	22		Goalundo	216 38	Cachar Sylhet	
	B ..	504	..	29	533	40			327 160	Cachar Sylhet	6
Proceeding independently of depôts ..	C	923			923	17		Kooshtea or Other routes	527 379	Cachar Sylhet .	
Total		7,634	.	508	8,142	1,238		...	6,620		284

13. The thanks of Government are again due to Dr. Grant for the care and energy which he has shown in the administration of the Department. The Medical Inspectors, Drs. Chandra, Richards, and Prockter, by whom his efforts for the improvements of emigration have been well seconded, are also entitled to the acknowledgments of Government.

By order of the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal,

A. P. MACDONNELL,

Offg. Secretary to the Government of Bengal.

No. 309.

COPY submitted to the Secretary to the Government of India, in the Revenue and Agricultural Department, for information.

No. 310.

COPY forwarded to the Superintendent of Emigration for information.

No. 311.

COPY forwarded to the Secretary to the Chief Commissioner of Assam for the information of the Chief Commissioner.

No. 312.

COPY forwarded to the Surgeon-General, Bengal, for information.

Circular No. 35.

COPY forwarded to all Commissioners of Divisions for information and communication to all District Officers subordinate to them.

By order of the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal,

C. S. BAYLEY,

Offg. Under-Secretary to the Government of Bengal.

CALCUTTA,
The 14th November 1881.

H. M.—Reg. No. 7898C—428—16-11-81.